

By Hook Or By Crook: From Pedicab Drivers to Company Owners through Start-Up Worker Co-Operatives

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Author Order	2 of 2
Accreditation	3
Abstract	<p>Disruption of information technology has threatened several jobs in the informal sector. As a result, the income gap between the rich and the poor can get wider. In Purwokerto, Central Java, the emergence of online application-based transportation has disrupted the work of becak drivers. This research used action research method. In action research, researcher conduct research and at the same time make changes and interventions to the object. In the first stage, diagnosis, it was found that becak drivers' work was no longer competitive. Therefore, the intervention made with establishing a start-up worker co-operatives model, an online-based worker-cooperative for former becak drivers. In this model, becak drivers are directed to work in service sectors, such as cleaning service, gardener, plumber, and other service works. Ordering process can be made through online application which can be downloaded for free in android devices. There are two implications in this study. First, in theory, this study offers a relatively new model, start-up worker co-operative. This model enables all workers to be owners in their co-operative company. Second, in practice, if successfully implemented, this model can be replicated for other sectors and other regions. As a result, start-up worker co-operative can be one solution to overcome income inequality.</p>
Publisher Name	Faculty of Economics and Business Universitas Jenderal Soedirman
Publish Date	2020-01-31
Publish Year	2020
Doi	
Citation	
Source	Performance: Jurnal Personalia, Financial, Operasional, Marketing dan Sistem Informasi
Source Issue	Vol 27 No 1 (2020): Performance
Source Page	41-50
Url	http://jos.unsoed.ac.id/index.php/performance/article/view/2426/1413
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