

## **Women's resistance in cotton industry: Study on environmental degradation in East Sumba**

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### **Abstrak**

National Cotton Acceleration Program (Program Akselerasi Kapas Nasional, PAKN) being incepted in East Sumba since 2008 has created three forms of resistance among female farmers in Tanamanang Village. The first form of resistance includes referring to the PAKN cotton as “project’s cotton,” which represents a negative inference, and can be categorized into a form of symbolic resistance. The second resistance is an open resistance since the actions can be observed in the female farmers’ daily routines. This form of resistance is done by defying the PAKN rules, such as the farming method and the sales agreement. The third form of resistance can be regarded as assertion resistance, which is done by rejecting the cotton demonstration plot being implemented in their front and back yard.