Most of them lose confidence and always feel inferior. The same thing happened with Banja and Juni.

However, by intensively assisted to the Ata, some Maramba, especially Umbu Pendi and Rambu Diana, are very supportive so their allow their Ata get involved in the project activities.

Banja mempresentasikan gambar tentang ceritera perubahan yang terjadi di desanya, Waingapu 2 Juli 2019

In addition, Banja and Juni both are two women from 82 families who were proposed by the village government to become member of community forest group (Hutan Kemasyarakatan/ HKM), to manage production forest in their villages area. When project asked Banja to be involved in workshops outside Sumba Island, Umbu Pendi and Rambu Diana agreed to let her involve in those workshop. According to Umbu Pendi and Rambu Diana, Banja need to see the outside world. Therefor they can learn new things that they did not get in the village. Moreover, Umbu Pendi and Diana gave their blessing to Banja to attend VOICE Linking and Learning activities which took place in Jogjakarta (Java Island).

Banja dan Juni mewakili Desa Matawa Pawali mengikuti kegiatan lokakarya, Waingapu 2 - 3 Juli 2019

This workshop (Waingapu and Jogyakarta) was the first experience for both of them. So far, they have never been involved in either meetings within the scope of households or villages, because of Ata is attached to them. They can only go out of their house to attend the customary ceremonial,s events, if they are told to do so by their master, even then they will be assigned only in the kitchen. So, they have a happy feeling and pride as well as they can be involved as participant in those activities.

Juni explain that, *" I used to be behind (at the kitchen), to prepare food and drink, but now I can sit in the front, talked with people from another village, I'm very proud and happy, even though on the first day I was scared and very nervous. But at the second day, I was getting used to it.*

In the village, I usually take part in government charity program called PKH (Program Keluarga Harapan/ Family Hope Program) meetings because I am a PKH's beneficiaries. After this, if there is PKH meeting, they asked for my opinion. I am brave enough now to express my opinion. I'm also very happy to be able sleeping in a hotel. This the first time I slept in a hotel, the bed was really good''. Juni told her story with a little shy.

According to Banja, appearing and speaking in public were not as scary as she thought all this time. If there was a meeting and she was involved, and when she had an opportunity to speak, then she would speak. Likewised Juni, Banja said that there was a proud feeling to be able to take part in the workshop, and she hoped to be involved in village meetings to familiarize herself to speak in the public forum.

The presence of those two Atas in public workshops, are result of a process from The Humba Hammu Consortium, supported by VOICE. The Ata had the opportunity to gain new experience, opportunity to interact with new people and share experiences so that they are expected to know the new world. They had an access to speak out and appear, and also had an access to have arable land to improve their economic. Juni and Banja had a hope, to send their children going to school for their right of education.

This result is also possible because of ideal relationship between maramba and their Ata, where Umbu Pendi take care of them, and guarantee their daily life as well. Although not all of the needs of the Ata are fulfilled. However, Umbu Pendi provide 0.25 Hectares/ata of his land to be managed by Ata as a source of income. So, when in several villages many Ata's chose to run away from their maramba's, Umbu Pendi still has a lot of loyal Ata's at his house.

Juni and Banja are very grateful to VOICE, because besides getting new experiences, they are also a beneficiary from project (named: The Right to Land for Marginalized People) and get access to HKm land to be managed. Both of them hope, through HKm land, they can plant various plants to enhance income of their family, like: turmeric, hazelnut and kabota/porang.