

Obstacles and Opportunities of Community Based *Dana Desa* Management

(Case Study: Kalisidi Village, West Subdistrict Ungaran, Semarang Regency)

Ifa Isnaini¹, Dewi Rustiana¹, Ela Nur Aini¹, Asma Luthfi¹

¹Faculty of Social Sciences, Semarang State University
Semarang, Indonesia

Corresponding email: ifaisnaini1@gmail.com

Abstract—*Dana Desa* are funds sourced from the State Budget (APBN) and are allocated to villages and transferred through regional budget. This fund is used to community development and empowerment of rural communities. In some places, the use of *dana desa* still adheres to the rules set by the government through Bappeda. However, there are several village areas that manage of *dana desa* by involving the community as happened in Kalisidi Village, Ungaran District, Semarang Regency. This research used qualitative research with some methods, including: interview, observation, literature studies. The results showed that (1) *Dana desa* utilization and management in Kalisidi Village (2) Community participation in *dana desa* management in Kalisidi Village (3) Barriers and opportunities in community based of *dana desa* management in Kalisidi Village were on *dana desa* management bottom up, but not involving women.

Keywords—*commodities; dana desa; community; participation*

I. INTRODUCTION

The village becomes an area that is constructed as a marginalized area in physical development, reflected in the infrastructure and quality of human resources [1]. As the rights given to the village, the potential they have needs to be a priority for the village's progress. One of the efforts in developing the potential of the village is through the *dana desa* program. In the development of village potential, the role of government and society is needed, so as to create a democratic life and realize village service that is more directed to the practice of good governance [2][3].

The development of rural areas is oriented 1) for the development of the village concerned by utilizing the development resources owned (human resources and natural resources). 2) to improve development linkages between sectors (trade, agriculture and industry), between villages, between villages and cities, and 3) to strengthen national development as a whole [3]. The importance of development starts from a small scope, namely the village, so the central government does not hesitate to allocate *dana desa* to improve welfare and improve the quality of the village community. Village development is

in line with the *Nawacita* concept carried out by the era of President Joko Widodo precisely in the third *Cita* which states that "Building Indonesia from the Outskirts by Strengthening Regions and Villages in the Framework of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia" [4].

Dana Desa that are oriented to building villages and empowering communities in order to improve quality have several principles in their implementation in the form of transparent, accountable, participatory, orderly and budgetary discipline [5]. All of the principles, the village is expected to be able to manage *dana desa* effectively and efficiently. The emergence of village development programs with *dana desa* is expected to suppress three important components, namely environmental, economic and human empowerment [6]. Village development programs with *dana desa* have similarities with previous programs in PNPM Mandiri urban areas. In PNPM Mandiri in urban areas is also intended to lift and empower the urban economy, especially in areas that are still marginal despite the urban environment [7]. This is similar to the conditions in Central Java that make villages in Central Java receive *dana desa* to increase their villages.

It can be seen that out of a total of 7,313 villages in Central Java, there are 208 villages that receive *dana desa* programs [5]. The amount of *dana desa* given to each village is not the same, because it is adjusted to the number of hamlets in each village. One of the villages in Semarang Regency that received the *dana desa* program was Kalisidi Village, which is located on the slopes of Mount Ungaran with the majority of people's livelihoods being farmers. Kalisidi Village is used as a pilot village because of its rapid development, especially in Central Java [8].

Community empowerment using *dana desa* programs also takes into account the principles of transparency. This is so that the use of *dana desa* can be managed properly without any misuse of funds and known by the general public. It's just that not many people in Kalisidi Village have the skills and expertise in managing *dana desa*, so that the role of village officials in managing *dana desa* still has some dominance in *dana desa*

management. Therefore, this study will discuss the "Obstacles and Opportunities of Community Based of *Dana Desa* Management".

II. RESEARCH METHODS

The approach used in this study is a qualitative research approach. Qualitative research is a research procedure that produces data in descriptive form. Data collection techniques in this study use three methods, namely interviews, observation, and literature. Data sources obtained from primary data. This primary data obtains from the resource person in the form of interview results, field observation notes, and data regarding informants. This study use to determine *dana desa* management in the village of Kalisidi Village. The second data obtains is secondary data. The data obtains by researchers from existing sources such as from the *dana desa* management archive of the government of Kalisidi Village [9].

III. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

A. Use Of *Dana Desa* Management in Kalisidi Village

Village development aims to improve the welfare of rural communities and the quality of human life and improve competitiveness through understanding basic needs, building village facilities and infrastructure, developing local economies and sustainable use of natural and environmental resources. From the use of *dana desa* that have been allocated for village autonomy in order to improve the quality of the village, one of them has been done by Kalisidi Village in the use of *dana desa* has been gradual and fair, namely by generalizing the distribution of *dana desa* in accordance with the needs of the community. The utilization made by Kalisidi Village is oriented to the needs that have been discussed before the village plans to implement the village work program on the use of *dana desa*.

The following uses have been carried out from *dana desa*. The First development, utilization, maintenance of irrigation canal facilities and infrastructure, the second program development, utilization, maintenance of road facilities and infrastructure, the third programs development activities, utilization, maintenance of physical facilities and infrastructure of government, the fourth program development, utilization, maintenance of education facilities and infrastructure, then fifth program development, utilization, maintenance of sanitation and hygiene facilities and infrastructure, the sixth program community capacity building activities, then the seventh program activities to improve the capacity of cleanliness, beauty, village affairs communal based waste bank development, and there after program operational activities for village standby transport (ASIDA).

B. Community Participation in *Dana Desa* Management in Kalisidi Village

Community participation is a form of community behavior as individuals or groups in a social environment,

organizations that take roles in various stages from the planning stage to the evaluation stage [10]. Good *dana desa* management cannot be separated from the involvement of the Kalisidi Village community in the village fund program. This involvement is then followed. Several stages of community participation in managing *dana desa* are as follows:

- Planning phase, the planning phase begins with a gathering or meeting of members of the Kalisidi Village government regarding the meeting to be held with the community and community leaders. The next step is to provide information regarding the deliberation in the implementation of *dana desa* and what programs are appropriate to be implemented in Kalisidi Village. Before the meeting took place, the village government provided free time to the community through appeals every RT to discuss. Later from the results of the discussion, it is expected that there will be inspiration based on the needs of the community. During the meeting procession, all elements of the community voluntarily followed the course of the deliberations related to suitable and appropriate programs to be implemented.
- Implementation phase, the implementation phase, all activities are carried out self-managed through the use of local resources or raw materials and strived to absorb more workers from the community. This stage is the selection of the number and workforce to be employed such as field officers, supervisors, payers, technicians and workers. In this stage, the community made members who were accompanied by village assistants and government officials of the Kalisidi Village, so that the funds that went out for infrastructure and non-infrastructure development were transparent to the community, then inventory activities carried out at this stage were related to the programs that had been implemented. The things that are inventoried are the procurement of the amount of goods or expenditure, the amount of labor absorbed, the development of a program, and the feedback that begins to emerge.
- Evaluation Phase for the Use of *Dana Desa*, in the final stage, the disbursement of *dana desa* is carried out in stages with the aim that the work design program and its implementation are also gradual. Disbursements are carried out every three months while the evaluation process is carried out on every program that has been implemented, namely at three stages at the village, sub-district and district levels. At the final level, monitoring was carried out at each *dana desa*. Monitoring aims to minimize misuse of *dana desa*. Evaluation of the use of *dana desa* was also carried out together with the community at the end of the year on the administrative review report of the village of Kalisidi. The government will collectively collect the community so that the community carefully examines the budgetary expenditure of

the *dana desa* which the central government launches to Kalisidi Village.

C. Obstacles and Opportunities of Community Based of Dana Desa Management in Kalasidi Village

The people of Kalisidi Village welcomed and accepted openly the existence of this *dana desa*, a form of good reception was shown by the enthusiasm of the community members in each of the socialization and deliberations carried out together with the local village officials. Because the *dana desa* provided can be used to build his village so that it has an impact on better development and equitable prosperity for the people [7].

The obstacle in managing *dana desa* in Kalisidi Village is that it still collides with the administration of reporting the use of *dana desa*, because the village apparatus are afraid of violating government regulations in using *dana desa*. *Dana desa* that were processed in three stages of disbursement hampered the process of distributing *dana desa* to the entire Kalisidi Village, so that it could not be done in one time to develop infrastructure or non-infrastructure in each village in the Kalisidi village.

Although the government of Kalisidi Village involves the community in the formulation of *dana desa* management, non-simultaneous development also requires people to use self-help funds to cover programs that have not used village funds. The gradual management of *dana desa* also affected the community. Apart from lack of accountability, in the process of formulating, implementing, and evaluating *dana desa*, it is still limited to community leaders, RT or RW, the head of the household, and the role of women is still very poor except from the village apparatus.

The opportunity that is owned by Kalisidi Village is very supportive in the process of implementing *dana desa*. Rural communities that are still harmonious and harmonious are an advantage for the *dana desa* program proclaimed by this government. Therefore, after the use of *dana desa*, the Kalisidi Village government made a series of community programs and empowerments run smoothly and harmoniously.

IV. CONCLUSION

From the use of *dana desa* channeled in Kalisidi Village, it is an effort to empower the community where

in the process of planning, implementing, and evaluating the community participates in the taking of work programs that are carried out using the *dana desa* budget, although there is still assistance in the implementation. This assistance is to be a facilitator between the community and the village government apparatus, and there is no dominance seen in the use of *dana desa* from the village government itself. *Dana desa* are expected to encourage the capability of rural communities to realize economic growth and support efforts to expand employment opportunities, reduce poverty, and reduce social inequality.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors are very grateful to reviewer for their valuable comments and inputs to earlier versions of this article. The author also expressed his gratitude to the community, community leaders, and village officials in Kalisidi Village, West Ungaran Subdistrict, Semarang Regency for their willingness to become informants in this study.

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