

The Role of the Community in Establishing Coastal Area Infrastructure in the Village of Pahlawan, Tanjung Tiram Subdistrict, Batubara Regency, North Sumatra

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Abstract

As a concept and practice of development, the concept of participation began to be discussed in the 60s as various international institutions promoted participation in the method of planning, implementation, and evaluation of development. The importance of the community in rural development is to remind the local people to be more proactive. The present study is a qualitative descriptive that describes the community's participation in rural infrastructure development. The results show that participation in decision-making in the "Pahlawan" village is still low in their awareness and care to attend deliberation meetings and discuss a program of village infrastructure development activities that do not meet the invitation quota. In this case, the coordination between the village agencies has not been done correctly, either with the village or community device environment. Participation in the benefits of maintaining and caring for each of the outcomes of village development is also low and has a detrimental effect on the development of poor, untreated village infrastructure. While participation in the development of village infrastructure is quite evident from the contribution of the community in preparing the availability of village infrastructure. Based on the program, five focus development activities are planned. However, only three development activities are implemented namely resource development, infrastructure or environment, and disaster preparedness.

Keywords: *participation, development, infrastructure, coastal*

Introduction

Infrastructure is the driving force for economic growth. From public and private financing allocations, infrastructure is seen as a locomotive of national and regional development. Infrastructure also plays a vital role in improving the quality of life and human well-being, including increasing consumption values, increasing labor productivity, and access to employment and increasing real prosperity. The nature and type of infrastructure needed by an area are influenced by the natural characteristics and patterns of dispersal of the population. Infrastructure is not only needed to increase competitiveness to drive more investment, production, and trade activities but also to accelerate the realization of development, which in turn can reduce poverty and unemployment. Public participation in development policies in countries that have adopted democracy, including Indonesia, is nothing new. Community participation is a technical process that gives the community a more significant opportunity and authority to resolve issues. As a concept and practice of development, the concept of new participation was introduced in the 60s when various international institutions promoted involvement in the development planning, implementation, and evaluation practices. The importance of the community in the development of the village is to remind the local community to be aware of various issues such as the development of infrastructure and village infrastructure, development of local economic potential, and utilization of existing natural and environmental resources to facilitate planning and implementation of development.

In supporting the development activities of Batu Bara regency, the vision and mission that should be achieved are to improve the performance of the regional development. Therefore, in supporting the vision and mission, the involvement or participation of the community in the development process from the planning, implementation to the evaluation of development outcomes is a crucial point, especially at the

village level. However, looking back at the beginning of the development planning phase using the bottom-up pattern, it turns out that the results have been evaluated, which does not pay much attention to the original aspirations of the village community. Similarly, the implementation of the project is still using the tender system, involving contractors as a third party in implementing the development of the area, which is based in the village. It shows that while the involvement of the community in the development process is only completed at the planning stage and while there are still many steps that are not well implemented, the implementation of the pattern can be criticized as having many drawbacks. For instance, community participation as a beneficiary is weak, as a result of various coordination forums at the village level, sometimes it is not considered by the higher government, and the planning mechanism initiated by the village "musrenbang" is merely a list of community needs rather than a participatory planning process. The process eventually became a bureaucratic process for a long time, and as a result, the people were not sure when their needs would be fulfilled.

If that were the case, then this reality would have hindered the process of development that involved the community (participants). As has been explained above, the prevalence of participatory development will lead to non-aspirational development patterns.

It raises the question of whether public participation in infrastructure development has been appropriately implemented, and that society is not the object of development; instead, they have been the subject of development. Public participation in the implementation of the development is not just a reflection of the people's enthusiasm for attending "musrenbang" events, but how the government responds to their interests, and how their involvement is well-planned from the planning stage to the stage of the development project. The enthusiasm of the community will emerge when the substance of the development process has been created. The results of field observations found that community participation in supporting development was not as expected. First, there are still issues that often revolve around community participation in the development of the "Pahlawan" Village, which the authors either directly or indirectly research on: and even some of the people were not involved in the "Pahlawan" Village government in the decision-making process. Second, including participation in the implementation, there are, in fact, some people who are unwilling to participate in various development programs carried out by the village government due to lack of demand or notification from the village government. Because it is influenced by their personal interests, which results in the level of participation of the Pahlawan villagers who tend to decline. Third, it includes participation in utilization, in this case, the community as beneficiaries of the development programs.

There are still communities that do not utilize facilities from development programs undertaken by village governments such as road construction that is not used by the community and lack of concern from the community in maintaining the available development. Fourth, participation in the evaluation involves the involvement of the public in the decision-making process, and in fact, the "Pahlawan" village community is still lacking in participation due to the lack of explicit notification from the village government. It is evident that there are several community empowerment programs in the village, and the spirit of community participation in the village is still low.

Community Participation

The success of infrastructure development is not without its citizens having the right to be actively involved. This right of participation has also been guaranteed by the constitution as provided in Article 28 C paragraph (3) of the Constitution of 1945 which states: Everyone has the right to advance himself in the struggle for his or her collective right to build his or her community, nation, and country. That is, in a variety of development activities ranging from planning, utilization, to monitoring requires the active role of the community as social control, and citizen participation is citizen power. Because of every development by the government, the public will feel its impact is positive and negative. In many cases of development, the rights of the people have been guaranteed that the constitution has been legalized by the government, either through legal instruments or by direct criminalization of society through the use of state (military/police)

tools. Development should pay attention to the laws that apply to society as part of local wisdom and the marginalized community.

According to data from the Agraria Reform Consortium (KPA) in 2017, agrarian conflict recorded 659 incidents, covering 520,491.87 hectares, and involved 652.738 heads of families. The number of victims and forms of violence in the agrarian conflict recorded 369 people (351 men + 18 women), 224 victims (170 men + 54 women), and six people were shot and 13 killed (all male victims). The number of violent perpetrators in the agrarian conflict includes 11 military, 21 police, and 15 criminals.

The agrarian conflict that occurred during 2017 involving citizens vs. the private sector was 289 cases, the citizens vs. the government were 140 cases, the citizens vs. the SOEs had 55 cases, the citizens vs. the authorities were 28 cases. (source: detik.com)

Such development practices are in contrast to the principles of economic democracy in the national economic system, which embody the meaning of nationality, meaning that national development is state-based and people's development. The decision-making model in development should be participatory democracy, and it is not an elite democracy.

Community involvement in any development is a fundamental right guaranteed by the constitution as provided for in Article 28C of paragraph (3) of the Constitution of 1945. The existence of public participation begins at the stage of information notification, consultation, dialogue, exchange of ideas, deliberations, opinions, and interactions. These are all human rights guaranteed and protected by the 1945 Constitution as referred to in Article 28 E paragraphs (3) and 28F of the 1945 Constitution.

In fact, denial of the government's involvement and role, the community, reflects the government's disobedience. For this reason, every government policy should adhere to the applicable law (*rechtmatigheid*) and general principles of good government.

The main roles of community participation in infrastructure development are: (1) The role of the community as a strategy. In essence, function and community are strategies for public support. (2) The role of society as a policy. Community is a potential subject that has been victimized or sacrificed by development. Therefore, the public is in a bargaining position to consult the right of government policy. (3) The role of society as a means of communication. The role of the community is to obtain information for decision-making by the government. (4) The role of society as a tool for dispute resolution. It is at this stage that the role of society is used to resolve conflicts through consensus-building efforts from existing opinions. To sum up, the most crucial part of Indonesia's development is to build Indonesia necessarily from the beginning of Indonesian citizenship and then to build their physical.

Infrastructure Development

Economic infrastructure plays an essential role in driving a country's economic growth performance. Often the difference in infrastructure is based on the investment made in the infrastructure. Discussions about infrastructure tend to lead to public goods. By understanding the nature of infrastructure as public goods, then the theory of infrastructure has an external character. This case is a condition where the government provides the infrastructure, and each party using the infrastructure does not provide a direct payment.

Canning and Pedroni argue that infrastructure has externalities. Various infrastructures such as roads, education, health, etc. have positive externalities. Provides support that facilities received from various infrastructures are positive externalities that can increase the productivity of all inputs in the production process. Positive externalities in the infrastructure are the Spillover Effect as a means of increasing the production of companies and the agricultural sector without having to increase capital and labor inputs or to increase technology levels. By building infrastructure, the productivity level of the enterprise and the agricultural sector will increase. One of the most visible is road construction (Hapsari, 2011: 16-17).

Following the President's regulations, Number 42 of 2005 on the Infrastructure Provisioning Committee, describes several types of infrastructure that must be provided by the government, namely, transportation

infrastructure, road infrastructure, irrigation infrastructure, water and sanitation infrastructure, telematics infrastructure, electoral infrastructure, and oil transport infrastructure and gas. Such infrastructure is categorized as necessary infrastructure, as it is required by the general public and needs to be regulated by the government on its provision.

Infrastructure, whether electricity, roads, or clean water, has a positive impact on Indonesia's economy. Electricity plays a significant role in the production process. Therefore, the policy of infrastructure development to improve Indonesia's economy in the face of the global crisis is appropriate and needs the support of various parties (Prasetyo & Firdaus, 2009).

Road infrastructure shows a significant impact on Indonesia's economic growth. With the decentralization of roads, the local government has a higher authority to build roads and repair damaged roads in an area. Streets have a positive contribution to the process of building quality and quantity that has an impact on economic growth in Indonesia (Keusuma & Suriani, 2015).

The role of infrastructure as a catalyst for the economic sector will be able to support the growth of related sectors as a multiplier effect and ultimately create new business opportunities and provide outputs of output as inputs for consumption (Sukatanika, 2018).

High levels of infrastructure development will indirectly boost investment. That has prompted the government to increase the amount of infrastructure in the Southeast Minahasa regency. The study aims to analyze how the development of the agricultural, health, and education sectors of the infrastructure in the Southeast Minahasa regency (Ferdy Posumah, 2015).

Infrastructure is vital to connect the various economic activity centers with the disadvantaged areas. For hard-to-reach areas such as mountain slopes or valleys, the population usually lives in poverty, and they are isolated from advanced development in the nearest growth center. Despite such geographical conditions, farmers in the smallest regions have difficulty marketing their produce. Whenever possible, farmers with low incomes will have to pay a heavy price. These barriers prevent the poor from taking part in the process of obtaining a better job or improving their productivity. This case is where infrastructure development can play a role in addressing poverty, namely increasing access to the poor and access to government intervention to more effectively address poverty. Better access will reduce living costs, increase income, and open up opportunities for the poor to benefit from economic growth.

Coastal Area

According to Adisasmita (2008, p.120), the coastal area is the land area, and it is the boundary between the ecosystems of land and sea. Further, Adisasmita (2008, p.138) states that several issues are closely related to coastal areas, namely social, economic, ecological and administrative aspects.

Methods

The study was conducted descriptively with a qualitative approach. According to Denzin and Lincoln in Moleong (2014, p.5), descriptive research is a method of problem-solving, which is observed by describing the state of a subject or object of inquiry-based on what it looks similar. The study was carried out to gain an overview of the extent to which the implementation of the "coastal" village development program (PDPT) in the village of "Pahlawan" and several factors of community participation have encouraged and hindered its implementation. Data is collected from the field of "Pahlawan" village. Primary data is received directly on the field and supporting data obtained from documents such as implementation reports.

Results and Discussion

Community Participation in Infrastructure Development

Participation in Decision Making

Community participation in the decision-making process is the key to society because it allows people to come to their conclusions and decide what decisions or policies are to be resolved, and in the interests or needs of the people. In that case, the public is free to make suggestions or ideas, criticize the development of village infrastructure through meetings or meetings held between the community and the government. From the results of the research, the village government has made an effort to engage the community in a meeting or deliberation on village development, but most of the people are still unaware of the importance of community participation in the decision-making process. At the time of the meeting, the development of the village community was limited. Community involvement in village development is required, as the community plays a key role in obtaining advice or information as a means of carrying out future village development activities.

Participation in Implementation

Basically, participation in this development emphasizes the direct involvement of the community. Participation in the implementation is participation made in the form of labor assistance and donations of funds. The cooperation and awareness of each community in the implementation of village development are enough needed. Because without the assistance of the village community, the application of the village development will not work out well because the implementation of the good development is the development of the awareness and care undertaken by the community with a voluntary nature that will eventually feel the positive impact of each outcome of the development activities in own village. Factors affecting the community's participation in the implementation of rural infrastructure development are a lack of concern from the people who care about their interests. It is the concern of the community that will eventually provide for the development or growth of the village.

Participation in Benefits

Community participation of benefiting is the participation in the use, maintenance, care, and preservation of every village development, as the community is directly involved in the use and maintenance of the development. But the benefits and preservation of community awareness and concern are still lacking. Sometimes every village development that has been built has been damaged. While preserving the physical development of the village is a shared responsibility of the community as beneficiaries. The work of specific individuals often influences community participation in development. The work of the individual affects his or her involvement in the activities of caring for, preserving the development that is at stake. This is what the government and the community need to help each other to look at each village building for use at any given time and to be used for a long time.

Participation in Evaluation

Participation in the evaluation of the results of this development is more than the assessment of monitoring and control of each ongoing development. The purpose of this evaluation can also be a lesson and a consideration in carrying out future village development activities. For the evaluation of development outcomes, the government usually holds a meeting with the public to discuss the results of the village development, which has been implemented. In the evaluation process, other than discussing the results of the development already underway, the public also often gives an assessment in the form of critique and advice on village development already implemented to the government, as in the process of developing the village government is less responsive to the public. In addition to criticism, the community also offered advice to the government, which meant that the process of rural development could go smoothly.

Implementation of Coastal Development Program "Tangguh" as an Effort to Build Coastal Areas.

Implementation of a robust coastal village development program (PDPT) in Pahlawan village, Batu Bara Regency, was implemented from 2013 to 2018. The application of the program includes five focus activities to build resilience and community response to the disaster in coastal areas. The five-development focus of the program is human development, business development, resource development, environmental or infrastructure, and also disaster preparedness and climate change. Human development activities related to improving the quality of coastal human resources are expected to improve their quality of life. Entrepreneurship is an activity proposed to increase income from the business or economic sectors. Whereas resource development activities are related to the utilization of resources or potentials by providing ecological, social, and economic aspects. The fourth activity is environmental or infrastructure development, which has the output of the coastal environment, such as coastal vegetation and village infrastructure. The last activity that is the focus of PDPT is the development of disaster preparedness which is a priority as it relates to the well-being and life of the coastal community.

The stage of implementation of the "Pahlawan" Coastal Village Development Program begins with the establishment of a new institution in the "Pahlawan" Village, which is the place of the community in enhancing its resilience. Coastal communities that are vulnerable to disaster are institutionalized into the Coastal Society (KMP), consisting of five KMPs for one village. This case meant that one KMP brought about a single PDPT design focus. Here, KMP acts as target groups and implementers. All activities related to PDPT are carried out by the KMP and supported by the village co-workers and empowerment team. Pahlawan Coastal Village Development Program, Tanjung Tiram subdistrict, is well planned, covering five development activities. However, in the implementation, only a few builds are implemented. Implementation activities are resource development activities, which are to improve the quality of vegetation on the beach with the budget of Rp. 98,500,000. In addition to infrastructure and environmental development activities in the form of TPA, MCK, and several bridges, either mangrove bridge or bridge for the evacuation path with a budget of Rp. 217,000,000.

Conclusion

Participation in decision-making in the village of "Pahlawan" is still low since the public's awareness and only a few community representatives accompany concern in attending deliberative meetings to discuss a program of village infrastructure development activities. Participation in the implementation of "Pahlawan" village was also low, especially in the awareness and involvement of the community as the process of implementation of village development, their interests influenced some villagers. Participation in the benefit of the consciousness of maintaining and preserving every outcome of the village's development has also remained low. It is the damage that has caused the development of the village infrastructure is damaged or untreated. While participation in village development participation appears to be useful as a result of community contribution in preparing the availability of village infrastructures such as road, ditch, or lighting, yet not optimal in "MCK" health facilities. The Coastal Village Development Program in the village of "Pahlawan," Tanjung Tiram Subdistrict, Batu Bara Regency, has been in operation for two years since 2017. Based on the results of the study, the results show that the coastal village is quite robust in terms of economic, ecological, and disaster management. The community is quite good at participating in the economic development of the village, where many marine produce processing efforts have the potential to increase their income. Also, the community plays an excellent role in anticipating disasters, where the community has coordinated with related agencies such as BNPB to provide disaster recovery socialization.

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