

Local Government Unit Participation: Its Duties and Functions in the Tourism Sector

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Abstract—Over the last two decades, tourism industry in Indonesia has been undergoing. One of its significant carried out by the role of local government. Its unit particularly in Cirebon, has a profound influence on the local tourism industry, and plays a part in conserving the potentials. Thus, the current study aimed to investigate the role of duties and functions carried out by the local government unit due to the development of tourism sector in the city of Cirebon. This applied a qualitative method after initial review of relevant literature. Department of Culture and Tourism Youth Service (Disporbudpar) was chosen as the subject by conducting un-structured interview with some administrators. The results revealed that the main duties and functions of the unit were include: a). Formulating technical policies; b) Organizing government affairs and public services; 3) Providing guidance and implementation of tasks; and 4) Performing other duties given by the City Mayor in accordance with their main duties and functions in tourism sector. However, some possible factors were found as the implication. The role seemed to have less participation in the development of tourism sector in the city for some constraints. These include less support of budget allocation, unsettled Regional Tourism Development Master Plan (RIPPDA) and inadequate human resources supporting this sector.

Keywords: *tourism, duties and functions*

I. INTRODUCTION

Tourism as a product and service oriented industry, could generate widespread benefits and impacts to the economy and society. Recent statistical information indicates that tourism is one of the largest and fastest growing industries in the world [1]. Tourism industry plays a prominent part in the economic development strategies of many developing countries. According to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the number of international tourist arrivals worldwide increased from 25.3 million to 983 million, and international tourism revenue reached 1.030 billion USD between 1950 and 2011 [1].

For destinations operating in a highly competitive market, tourism planning is one of the most important points in increasing their success [2,3]. Tourism plans around the world cultures. Over the last two decades, tourism industry in Indonesia has been undergoing. Based on the information given by BPS there are 231,179 foreign visitors coming to visit West Java. This shows a big number of tourists which influence regional income as well as the development [4-6].

One area in West Java which has a potential in tourism sector is Cirebon. Cirebon is one of the cities that have a rapid development and tremendous progress after Bandung and Bekasi. Cirebon is known as a place for Sunan. There are many historical and cultural relics in this city. Some destinations that can be visited are Kasepuhan Cirebon Palace, Ade Irma Suryani Waterland, Kanoman Palace Cirebon, Plangon Monkey Tours, Sang Cipta Rasa Great Mosque, Goa Sunyaragi, Kejawan Beach etc.

With respect to providing the regional tourism product, local authorities are essentially responsible for preparing tourism policy statements and developing management strategies, controlling development within the local planning system, providing tourism information services, and undertaking the marketing of the destination [7]. Local authorities play an important role in developing policies to promote and shape the development of tourism in their areas. Local governments have also responsibilities for land-use planning, development applications for tourism-related land uses, and the provision of local infrastructure and public amenities [8]. In many countries local authorities have not been closely involved in tourism and have little experience of its planning, development and management [9]. In recent years this has been changing, and the key role of local authorities is now recognized [10]. Local authorities are widely acknowledged as a pivotal and influential stakeholder in a destination, and they are important actors to support tourism development within a destination due to their local knowledge [11].

On this basis, local government and its unit of the implementation can have a profound influence on the local tourism industry, and plays a part in conserving the potentials using strategy. As in charged unit in managing Tourism in the city of Cirebon, Department of Culture and Tourism Youth Service unit (Disporbudpar) carries out some affairs on duties and functions as part of the local government based on the Government Policies regarding tourism sector contained in the Republic of Indonesia Law No.10 of 2009.

Accordingly, the author conducted a study with the aim at exploring duties and functions carried out by Department of Culture and Tourism Youth Service unit (Disporbudpar) and find out some possible implications faced by the unit due to the

implementation of duties and functions in the tourism sector in Cirebon.

II. METHODOLOGY

This article sought to examine duties and functions of local government unit and find out some possible hindrances on the implementation of its duties and functions toward tourism regional regulations. It is qualitative study with Department Culture and Tourism Youth Service unit (Disporbudpar) was chosen to be the subject using face-to-face unstructured interviews with the Head of Tourism Unit and five administrators. The survey was initially prepared by the author after a review of relevant literature. Another important part of the research dealt with some possible constraints behind less participation of the unit towards the implementation of its duties and functions.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the interview, main duties and functions of Department of Culture and Tourism Youth Service unit (Disporbudpar) in the city of Cirebon are include: a). Formulating technical policies in the field of youth and sports as well as culture and tourism; b) Organizing government affairs and public services in the field of youth and sports as well as culture and tourism; c) Providing guidance and implementation of tasks in the field of youth and sports as well as culture and tourism; and d) Performing other duties given by the City Mayor in accordance with their main duties and functions. On the other hand, these are also supported by some factors in accordance with the development of tourism sector in the city. Some factors include communication, human resources, disposition, and structural bureaucracy. However, Disporbudpar found some other hindrances due tout’s role of duties and functions in the development of tourism sector in Cirebon. The following table shows on the results:

TABLE I. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

Dimension	Parameter	Answer
Communication	Transmission on how the Local Unit conveys the implementation of tourism development policies to the stakeholder	The communication is conducted in a periodic basis in formal discussions with some stakeholder’s i.e. local government, tourism business, academicians, and many others.
Human Resource	Clarity to explain the policies to the stakeholder Consistency towards the implementation of duties and functions of department tourism unit. Questions towards duties and functions of the Local Units on the development of tourism in Cirebon.	Stakeholders are required to share opinion, support as well a suggestion. Less optimal of the implementation for low educated hum an resource Less supported educational! background and rapid mutation among the human resource among Local Unit Department toward les: optimal of the tourism development and the implementation of its duties and functions
	Budgeting of the implementation on tourism development in Cirebon	Minimum budget in development of tourism sector
	Facilities supporting the development of tourism sector The question on how the information is carried out by the Local Units Department	Less optimal and poor maintenance of the facilities in tourism spots Through official portals, website Instagram
Structural Bureaucracy	Attitude in carrying out tasks among the Local Units Department toward the development of tourism sector in Cirebon Commitment among Local Units Department toward the implementation of tourism development policies Standard Operational Procedure towards the implementation of duties and functions of the Local Unit Department	Keep supporting the implementation in tourism sectors but less optimal any lack of hum an resource Less optimal in accordance with the Standard Procedure
	Fragmentation of the bureaucratic structure among tourism stakeholders	Lack of coordination among relate institutions / agencies, such as: Disporbudpar. Transportation Department, police, tourist businesses, tourism -aw are community groups, managers o’ tourist destinations.

Referring to the policy in the Republic Indonesia Law on tourism, duties and functions of Disporbudpar the leading sector has not been providing its own Local Regulation (PERDA) in terms of tourism organization. The City applies only Province Government Regulation (West Java). As a result, Disporbudpar duties and functions in communication carries only the regulation instead of developing the regulation based on the local potentials. Human resources are also a profound element in the implementation of its duties and functions. However, among five administrators in the department, the number does not meet the expectation in terms of quality. Lack of support in budget, public facilities and infrastructure to reach the tourism sites are identified as one of less participations of the department in this sector. These cause some sites abandoned or slumbered. Seeing this, some private local parties tried to re-

develop the sites and in the future, they set some plans to organize with some different implementations.

IV. CONCLUSION

In brief, results of the study on duties and functions of Dipsorbudpar showed less participation in the development of tourism sector in Cirebon for some possible barriers. These include less support of budget allocation, unsettled Regional Tourism Development Master Plan (RIPPDA) and inadequate human resources supporting this sector. This study will be more beneficial to some degrees with further attempt regarding the strategies in order to support the development of local potentials in tourism sector as an approach to local economic development.

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