

Identification and Role of Stakeholders in Ecotourism Development in Indonesia

Nurul Hikmah¹ Endang Larasati² Hartuti Purnaweni³ Tri Yuniningsih⁴

^{1,2,3,4} *Department of Public Administration, faculty of Social Science and political Science, University Diponegoro Semarang, JL. Erlangga Barat VII 35, Semarang, Indonesia*

* Corresponding author: nurulfisip@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Ecotourism becomes one of the economic support alternatives to a country if it is well managed and also has very good management. However, on the other hand, the existence of ecotourism gives a negative impact on the environment in the form of garbage, damage to historic objects, pollution, and others. Therefore, there is a need for a mechanism to overcome this negative impact, one of which is through collaborative governance. This study use qualitative research methods with the SLR approach, with a database and some research limitations in the search for literature. The purpose of this study is to provide a brief analysis of the identification and also the role of stakeholders in ecotourism development. The results of this study are to provide a mapping to stakeholders namely the government, the private sector, and the community in their participation in ecotourism development in Indonesia.

Keywords: *ecotourism, collaborative governance, and stakeholders*

1. INTRODUCTION

The development of ecotourism in the world today is very interesting to discuss in-depth. Particularly ecotourism is an alternative to economic support in the modern era today, improving the economy of local communities, conservation centers, and as a location to protect biodiversity, which is elsewhere already experiencing extinction [1]; [2];[3];[4]. Due to the huge economic turnaround of the ecotourism sector, it can be said that the ecotourism sector is the second-largest alternative economic contributor after the oil and natural gas sector in several countries in the world [5]. Because of such large economic factor, many countries in the world including Indonesia very aggressively promote this ecotourism activity; in addition, the data shows the ecotourism sector experienced a significant increase over years, that is growing around 10-15% per year, \$ 154 billion [6].

In Indonesia, the ecotourism sector has become a top priority in sustainable development by carrying out various kinds of promotions both at home and abroad carried out by the Indonesian government aimed at supporting the welfare of local communities and also preserving nature [7]. Indonesia is a country that is rich in cultural richness and natural resources in it, the area covering + 17,000 islands, diverse rare floras and faunas, and about 60% of Indonesia's land has many types of forests and other vegetations [8]. Such conditions make Indonesia have a lot

of ecotourism destination popular in foreign countries such as the Tengger National Park, Betung Kerihun National Park, and Lake Sentarum, Tanjung Puting National Park, Alas Purwo National Park, and others.

However, this ecotourism also raises some critiques on the environment around the ecotourism [9]. Based on the results of research conducted [10], ecotourism has a negative effect on air, air, and soil, excessive fuel consumption, damaged flora, and fauna, as well as several buildings that are increasing with looting around tourist area which is carried out by small tourists by some of these. Also, another study conducted [11] on the coastal area in Yogyakarta Province found that the impact generated consisted of waste consisting of leaf waste (78.17%), and food waste (19.87%) that cannot be described by the environment.

Therefore, ecotourism needs to have rules and good cooperation between the government and tourism management as well as to invite the participation of local communities in developing eco-friendly eco-tourism that is also sustainable. This concept is certainly very necessary to reduce the negative impacts of this ecotourism. [12] Ecotourism cannot be developed unilaterally by individuals, but ecotourism is very integrated and has a multi-element mechanism that can help increase this ecotourism, through the participation of the private, government and local people. If this multi-element mechanism is applied to ecotourism, it will have a positive

impact on the progress of the ecotourism sector in Indonesia.

This research will identify the role of the stakeholders in ecotourism development in Indonesia. A deeper and brief analysis will be presented by the researcher in this research to be able to find some roles that must be played by each stakeholder in the development of ecotourism, especially in Indonesia, to reduce any negative impacts resulting from this ecotourism. The purpose of this paper is to provide a more in-depth analysis briefly through several research reviews focusing on ecotourism development in Indonesia. This study will use qualitative research methods with SLR (Systematical Literature Review) approach specifically for social research.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The multi-role mechanism of the stakeholders for ecotourism development will be discussed by researchers using public administration science. The concept that can explain this mechanism is Collaborative Governance. The explanation of researchers is presented below.

2.1 Collaborative Governance

Collaborative Governance mechanism is a mechanism which is done by the government by involving the role of the private sector and the community to attempt to prevent and to overcome any problems that cannot be done unilaterally by the government [13]. The Collaborative Governance mechanism is presented as a solution to overcoming the problems of ecotourism development in Indonesia today, where Collaborative Governance must involve many stakeholders consisting of the private sector, the community and the government are expected to contribute more and be active, for example in the field of legislation or to negotiate more dominated by the Central Government and Regional Governments [14].

The reinforcement of the community capacity in order to be able to act more in following the path of Collaborative Governance is very important to be expected; this will be a social capital for the community in following this Collaborative Governance mechanism [15] [16]. Then, the potential of resources owned by the private sector should be maximized [17]. Therefore, collaborative governance is an ideal solution when applied in Indonesia in solving current public service problems. Collaborative governance can be an alternative effort to solve every public problem, especially the ecotourism sector in Indonesia. Moreover, this is an effort to support the achievement of good governance by taking steps slowly, in which the government is no longer top-down but now leads to bottom-up, by involving many stakeholders.

2.2 The Role of Stakeholders

The problem in handling ecotourism certainly cannot be explained clearly, but it is very necessary to have a matrix that can detail the roles performed in this Collaborative Governance mechanism. According to [18] ;[19], there are at least some stakeholders in the development of the ecotourism sector including those from the government both the central and regional governments, and those from the private sector in the form of travel service companies, hotel entrepreneurs, as well as other rental services around the ecotourism area, then the third is the local people who live directly and reside in the area.

Also, it does not rule out the possibility of other parties, e.g. donor agencies or academic research in this ecotourism area, to have an interest in the Collaborative Governance mechanism [20]. The existence of these donor agencies is no more than their concern in paying attention to the existence of this ecotourism area so that the sustainability of ecotourism can be maintained with the assistance provided by the donor agency. Besides, academicians indirectly play a role in carrying out academic promotion activities and also provide progress for the development of science-based on the results of his research in this ecotourism area.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This research will use a qualitative research method with the Systematical Literature Review (SLR) model literature approach based on the use of a Scopus database. In this Scopus database, there are many references from academicians because they have journals or other scientific articles of very good reputation [21] [22] [23]. Also, in his analysis to find good articles in this study, researchers used some keywords: the role of stakeholders and also ecotourism. Researchers also provide a limitation in finding articles in the database, in which only scientific articles in the form of international journals that will be analyzed to answer the formulation of problem in this study, and then there is a limitation of the publication year for an article only from 2015-2019. Thus, the articles found can be relevant in answering the problem formulations in this study [24]. The formulation problem in this research is what the role of stakeholders is in ecotourism development.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Result

Based on the results of a literature search using 2 (two) keywords: the role of stakeholders and ecotourism through

the Scopus database, the researchers have found at least some journal articles with the details as follows.

Table 1. Results of literature search

No	Database	Author	Relevant
1	Scopus	(Al-tokhais & Thapa, 2019), (Carius & Job, 2019), (Alonso & Nyanjom, 2015), (Fletcher et al., 2016), (Gan et al., 2018), (Higgins-desbiolles, 2016; Higgins-Desbiolles & Wijesinghe, 2018), (Hu et al., 2019), (Kummitha, 2020), (Manaf et al., 2006), (Martini, Buffa, & Notaro, 2017), (Min, 2017), (Pasape et al., 2016), (Romero-brito, Buckley, & Byrne, 2016), (Snyman, 2016), (Tiberghien et al., 2018).	16

The table above gives a brief matrix description of the results of a literature search using a database and using 2 (two) keywords, finding at least 133 articles. Then, the researchers sorted them again to get the articles written in 2015-2019 and found at least 56 articles. To make it easier for researchers to answer the problem formulation, they only used international journals while those in forms other than journals will be eliminated by researchers and 16 (sixteen) journal articles were found relevant to this research with Systematical Literature Review model.

4.2. Discussion

The discussion will be conducted briefly and in-depth analysis will be conducted to answer the formulation of the problem that has been determined by previous researchers. The following is the researchers' explanation regarding the role of stakeholders in ecotourism development in Indonesia.

4.2.1 The role of stakeholders

Stakeholders generally do not mention one by one from the parties involved in ecotourism development in detail. Through this literature review, researchers can map some of the stakeholders involved in the development of ecotourism. Among them are the Government, private sector and, also the local community who are demanded to be able to play an active role in ecotourism development, moreover, through this collaborative governance mechanism which involves 3 main actors in solving an existing problem.

The main role of the Government can be seen by

carrying out a formulation of sustainable policies regarding ecotourism both in using ecotourism areas as a place for recreational, intriguing, hunting, and other activities related to nature tourism [25]; [26]. To achieve this sustainably, of course, the government must hold a government in the area to the lowest level to create a good synergy and to remove overlapping power [27] [28]. The government both at the central and regional levels should be able to involve a stakeholder including the private sector and local communities especially those located directly around the ecotourism area [29]. Because this can be utilized well, it will certainly have a positive impact especially on the economic improvement of local communities, taxes to the region, and can bring in other investors who will make a major contribution to state revenue [30].

Then the role of the private sector is very supportive of every policy issued by central and regional governments. This private sector, if elaborated more deeply, covers several parties, for example, the hotel rental service, restaurant management, ecotourism area management, and other service rentals that are not directly located in this ecotourism area, besides supporting sustainable ecotourism, of course, the private sector will be more advanced in conducting management in ecotourism areas for example by involving local communities in developing ecotourism and empowering local communities [31]. On the other hand, the private sector has adequate resources to survey and to calculate losses and profits when building ecotourism, especially if the private sector is a more established foreign company [32] [33].

Then there are actors from the local community who directly intersect with the ecotourism region, of course,

they should not miss this opportunity. The community must be able to see this opportunity as a way to improve local capacity, local economy and high competitiveness so that it can be a good social capital [34] [35]. To realize the role of the community in enhancing its empowerment, of course, a semi-formal body is required to accommodate the interests of this community, for example, a tourism awareness group, a local craftsman/souvenir group, a youth village tourism community, a guided tour originating from the local community, and others [36] [37]. Besides, local communities through these groups play an active role in participating in activities related to promotion and this is a great opportunity to introduce the beauty of the ecotourism areas of their respective regions [38] [39].

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the research conducted with the Systematical Literature Review model, it can be concluded that the role of stakeholders consists of 3 (three) main actors: firstly central and regional governments acting as facilitators and also provide interests to both the private sector and the community through each of its sustainable policies. Secondly, private sector plays a greater role in improving the economy to advance its organization so of course, it requires a careful calculation with its resources. Thirdly, the local community plays a role in enhancing their capabilities and empowerment, a semi-formal organization that can be a good social capital in a mechanism of ecotourism development in the area needing.

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