

The Utilization of Village-Based Participation in Community Empowerment in East Lampung District

Muhamad Rudi Wijaya^{1,2*}, M. Bahri Ghazali², Shonhaji², Heni Noviarita²,
Kholid Hidayatullah^{2,3}, Ahmad Hadi Setiawan^{2,4}, Khoirurroji'in^{2,5}

¹*Department of Economic Syariah, STIS Darul 'Ulum Lampung Timur, Lampung, Indonesia.*

²*Department of Dakwah, UIN Raden Intan Lampung, Indonesia.*

³*Department of Economic Syariah, Universitas Muhammadiyah Pringsewu, Lampung, Indonesia.*

⁴*Department of Education, Faculty of Education Arabic, STIT Darul Fatah Lampung, Indonesia.*

⁵*Department of Syariah, IAI Agus Salim Metro, Lampung, Indonesia*

*Corresponding author email: rudiwijaya68@gmail.com

Abstract. This research departs from the many problems faced by village governments in their readiness to carry out development through the use of village funds, which is a government program in implementing development on a national scale. Village funds should be a driving force for the welfare of the community as a whole and not just for a few people. Community empowerment is a village government program in community development activities through village funds. Researchers use qualitative descriptive analysis methods in research. The data sources of this research are the Regional Community Empowerment Service of East Lampung Regency, the village government, and the community. Methods of data collection using interviews and documentation. The data analysis process of this research was used Miles and Huberman Approach Model that covers some steps; data reductions, data display, and analysis. The results showed that the utilization of village funds carried out in East Lampung Regency was carried out in several stages, namely, 1) planning, 2) implementation and 3) evaluation of activities. Meanwhile, the community empowerment program is carried out in several aspects such as community empowerment in strengthening village government institutions, community empowerment in the economic, social, education, health, and renewal technology fields. Public awareness through development participation is the main capital for the success of development programs. So it is necessary to optimize community participation in the utilization of village funds through empowerment activities so that they can be carried out properly.

Keywords: *Village, Community, Lampung*

1. INTRODUCTION

The reform era from the enactment of Law Number 22/1999 and enactment with Law 25/1999 brought significant changes to the system and development that shifted from regional autonomy, from centralized development (centralized) to regional development (decentralized). Thus, development is mandated for each province.

Law No 32 of 2004 restores the status of the village to indigenous people [1], so there is no uniformization. This means villagers as indigenous people have the right to develop themselves. Besides, there will be differences in solving problems between one village and another or between one region and another so that the government issued Law Number 6 of 2014 on Village.

The Nawacita program implemented by the Government of Indonesia has been implemented from 2014-2019. The focus of development in the third point of the Nawacita program is to strengthen rural and urban areas. [2] Income budget Village

funds used for village expenditure are allocated for villages to fund various development activities such as village government activities, activities implementing development, social development activities, and community empowerment program activities. [3].

Village funds are sourced from the state budget and expenditure and transferred through regional or city budgets and expenditure to fund government activities, implement the development, and community empowerment [4]. Village funds are intended to fund village government activities, including implementing development, conducting community social development, and empowering the community. Village funds have a significant impact on village revenue by stimulating villages to carry out the development process through community services, physical and non-physical development, empowerment, and coaching of villagers. The village is the subject of development because more than 60% of Indonesians live in villages.

Village government as a subsystem of Indonesian government has the authority in development activities. so that the village government through law has the authority to regulate all the interests that exist in the village community. In carrying out these duties and responsibilities, the village government allocates a budget called the village fund. This understanding explains that in village government there are policies in determining ongoing development programs and requiring aspirations from the community. so that there is collaboration between village and community policies[5].

Village government is an element of government administration consisting of the head of village and village officials. To regulate, the village government issues village regulations compiled by the head of the village and the Village Consultative Body (BPD).

The concept of Islam in a state is welfare in all aspects. Baldatun Thoyibatun Warobbun Ghofur is the ultimate goal, where society is full of peace, prosperity, justice, and is spiritually or materially perfect. Allah says in Surah Saba' Verse 15;

لَقَدْ كَانَ لِسَبَإٍ فِي مَسْكَنِهِمْ آيَةٌ جَنَّتَانِ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ كُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ

بَلَدُهُ طَيِّبَةٌ وَرَبُّهُ عَفُورٌ

“Indeed, there was a sign for ‘the tribe of’ Sheba in their homeland: two orchards—one to the right and the other to the left. ‘They were told:’ “Eat from the provision of your Lord and be grateful to Him. ‘Yours is’ a good land and a forgiving Lord.” (QS. As-Saba’:15)[6].

sustainable manner [11]. Therefore, the community has an important and active role in development through village funds with short and long-term goals. The goal of community empowerment is to shape individuals and communities to become independent in thinking and acting. Community independence is a condition characterized by cognitive, conative, psychomotor, affective abilities, with the direction of the resources owned by the community environment.

This state concept is narrated in the Qur'an. A prosperous country with a good irrigation system, a fair government system and supported by the people. This ideal concept is described in the Qur'an as a consideration for Muslims. In the implementation of Village Law, empowerment is a development concept that upholds sovereignty for villagers as subjects who have rights and authority.

Empowerment is closely related to society and has a reciprocal relationship. In its development, it requires participation in empowerment activities, especially in the village. Empowerment signifies increasing participation in decision-making and makes people feel capable of making decisions [12]. Participation is defined as engagement and involvement [13], proactive and reactive to program development and implementation, by carrying out an agreement, action, and sharing of authority and responsibility in an equal position [14].

In developing countries Community empowerment is one of the ideal developments to do [7]. The empowerment program that is carried out involves the community in its implementation to encourage the community and individuals in it to be able to change and improve their lives in various aspects such as socio-economic and political.[8].

To grow and develop, community participation in development requires preconditions or elements of participation. Kotler mentioned several elements or prerequisites for participation in every development, namely cause, change agent, and change targets [15]. Thus, these aspects become the basis for development that fully involves the community in the process of policymaking and the beneficiaries of the policy.

Empowerment can be defined as a planned, systematic, continuous process, either for individuals or collectively to develop the potential and ability to carry out social transformation [9]. Empowerment of exercises to plan and implement processes that can strengthen the activities carried out, assess, and motivate oneself to be able to increase their knowledge and skills.[10].

In East Lampung Regency, village funds are transferred to the community through the village government for development based on various aspects. In 2015-2019, 30% of village funds were used to carry out operational financing for the Village Government and Village Government Institutions, while 70% were for development,

Community empowerment does not mean to make people dependent on various charities. Everything that is enjoyed must be produced on its own (the results can be exchanged with other parties). Thus, the ultimate goal is to be independent, enable, and build strength towards a better life in a

community empowerment, and strengthening the capacity of the Village Government. This shows that community empowerment is given special attention by the government.

In the implementation of Village Law, empowerment is a development concept that upholds sovereignty for villagers as subjects who have rights and authority. Therefore, the success of empowerment is not only measured materialistically, such as physical facilities and infrastructure, but also measured by the level of equal distribution of welfare, and most importantly changes in attitudes and behavior of the community. Empowerment is another form of character education that encourages people to be capable or skilled and have social integrity.

2. METHOD

In this study, researchers used a qualitative descriptive analysis. The informants of this study were the Village Government and Community, as well as other supporting sources. Data were collected through interviews, documentation, and observations.

This study used qualitative analysis as stated by Matthew B. Miles and A. Michael Huberman which divided into three stages, 1) Data reduction or selection and focus on simplifying, abstracting, and transmitting raw data from notes or records in the field, 2) Data presentation for concluding, 3) Data verification or drawing conclusions based on reduction, interpretation, and presentation of data. Analysis and data collection activities through these three stages run interactively and according to the cycle [16].

To test the validity of the data, a triangulation technique (cross-check) was conducted. The triangulation process was carried out continuously throughout data collection and data analysis until there were no differences and no need for informant confirmation. Triangulation was carried out by testing the understanding of researchers and informants [17].

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Utilization of Participation-Based Village Funds in Empowering Muslim Communities in East Lampung Regency

Utilization of village funds in empowerment in East Lampung Regency was carried out through community participation or community-based. community participation and a proactive attitude in every activity planning program in development funded have a positive impact on implementation of the program so that the fulfillment of village needs will be optimally realized.[18] The utilization was carried out in several stages. First, the program planning stages, such as hamlet forum (MusDus), drafting of RPJMDes, drafting of RKPDes, and drafting of APBDes. Planning for village funds from the Central Government to the village is important so that development is right on target and measurable by fulfilling the stages in program planning in the village. The development planning stage is required to involve the community as one of the conditions which can be seen in the following chart.

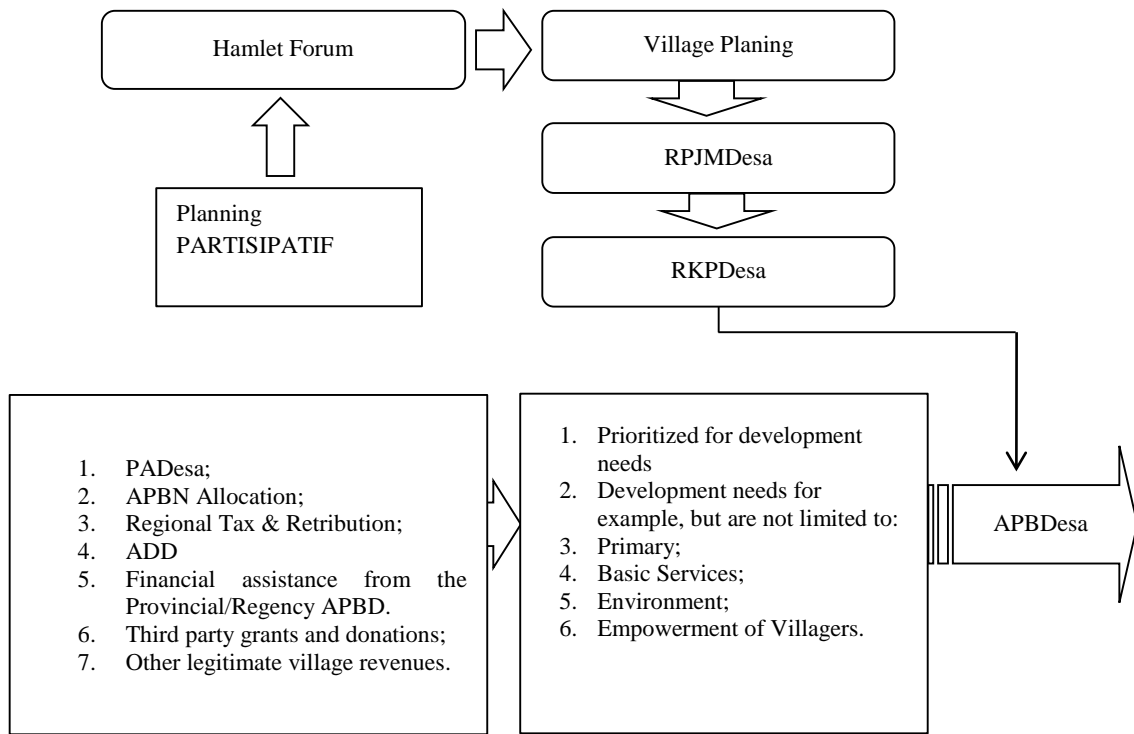


FIGURE 1. Chart of Development Program Planning

Based on the planning process, a detailed implementation explanation is as follows. First, the drafting of RPJMDesa was carried out by involving the community and considering the village and regional or city development priorities. Second, the formation of an implementing team with ahead of the village as a supervisor, village secretary as chairman, head of community empowerment institution as secretary, members of community empowerment institution, community empowerment cadre, and community. The results were reported to the Village Consultative Body and the head of the village as the

basis of the village forum. Third, the village forum (MusDes) was carried out through consideration which resulted in several village assessment reports, policy directions, utilization, and priorities as the basis of the RPJMDes draft. Thus, the drafting of the RPJMDes takes into account the contribution of the community. The community was involved in the drafting and must include women as one of the requirements for drafting. The next stage can be seen as follows;

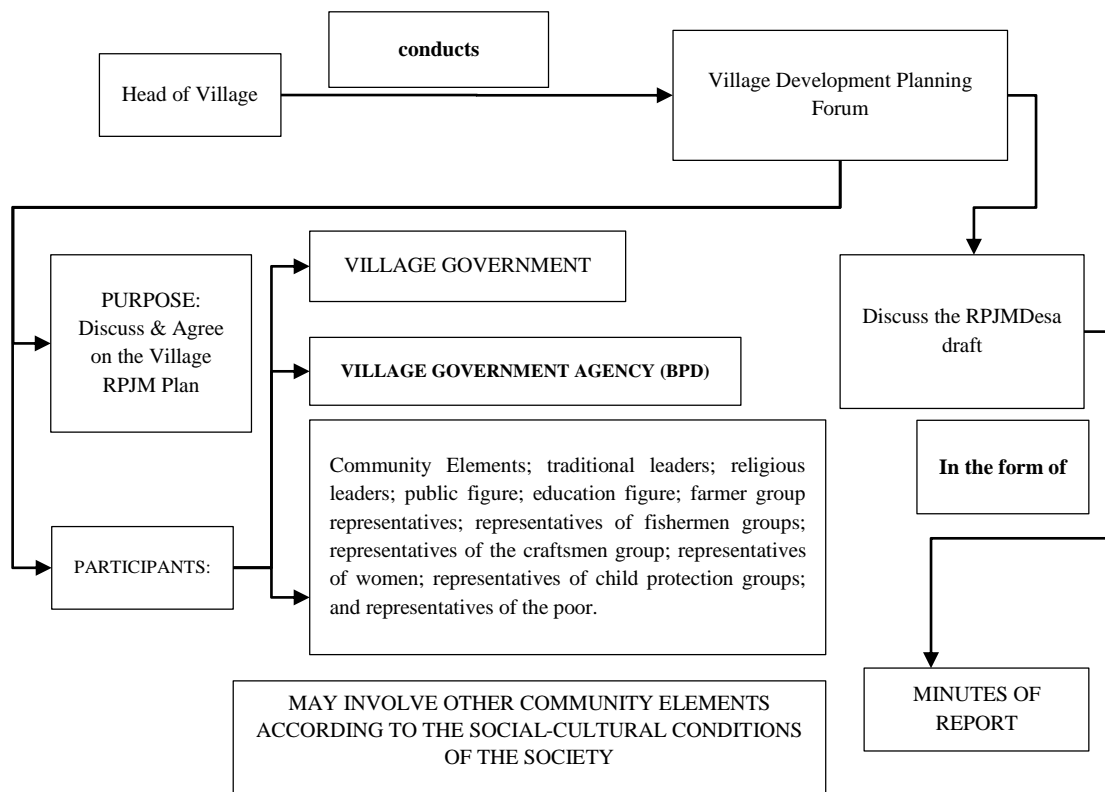


FIGURE 2. Chart of The Development Planning Flow in the Utilization of Village Funds

Second, the implementation of community empowerment. Based on data analysis, the measurement of participation in development implementation can be seen from the seriousness of the community to contribute time and energy as well as materials or land to support village development activities. This is shown in the involvement of the community in empowerment programs by the village government, starting from empowering the education sector, empowering the health sector, empowering the socio-economic sector, empowering the appropriate technology, and empowering the village government institutions. The community occupies empowerment activities as formal and informal educators, Village Technology Service Posts, Family Welfare Empowerment, youth organizations, and so on.

If the community voluntarily contributes time, energy, and material in the implementation of village development, it means that the community is involved with the responsibility for the success of the implementation of village development. Community participation in the implementation of the empowerment program was measured by involvement in activities to increase knowledge and

skills as well as sincerity in developing productive economic activities. Communities that are active in increasing their capacity will make them more empowered and are expected to develop various empowerment program activities to improve the quality of welfare to create a civil society.

Third, evaluation of community empowerment. At this stage, evaluation can take the form of criticism, suggestions, protests, and other forms to competent parties. Evaluation results should be monitored so that there are improvements in the future. Development evaluation activities are important to determine development achievements so that they are in line with the plans and objectives of the village empowerment as a whole. However, evaluation is also related to the implementation of development programs or government policies that have an impact on villagers. Therefore, community control includes external control or the capacity of the community to supervise government policies and actions and internal controls related to critical and reflective assessments of the risks.

3.2. Utilization of Participation-Based Village Funds in Community Empowerment

Successful Public Policy determined by policy makers in the policy implementation process.[3] The implementation of community empowerment programs in the use of village funds in East Lampung district is carried out to increase various forms of empowerment in various aspects of empowerment. The empowerment that is carried out to increase knowledge, skills, and strengthening in human development, as an increase in human resources in rural areas. The goal that can be achieved by the existence of empowerment program activities is to form an empowered society. Activities carried out in community empowerment in the utilization of village funds, health, economy, technology, and village governance.

3.2.1 Empowerment In Education

Community empowerment in education is used to increase knowledge and skills as well as strengthening the field of education. The target of this empowerment program is the people in the village, starting from the general public, the formal education community, and informal education. Besides, there are improvements to educational facilities and infrastructure to meet the educational needs of the community. The form in the empowerment program can be in the form of additional funding for educators, training, as well as repair of educational facilities and infrastructure, and even the construction of new buildings.

3.2.2 Empowerment In Health

Community empowerment in the utilization of Village funds in the health sector in East Lampung district is used for strengthening in the health sector, from infants to the elderly. such as prevention of stunting, assistance for health in the form of social security, and improvement of health cadres by forming health communities in villages, and these cadres are trained through training and are funded to improve health for village communities. This empowerment program can also take the form of repairing health facilities and infrastructure, health guidance and counseling, and development of "Alert Villages". This health program is expected to make it easier for people to live healthily and make people aware of the importance of healthy living

3.2.3 Empowerment In Socio-Economic

In the economic sector, the community empowerment program is used to improve the village economy. This program includes the empowerment of small and medium enterprises in

villages, home industries, Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes), farmer groups, markets, and other community economic support. The form of this empowerment program can be in the form of training in the economic sector, capital assistance, assistance for strengthening, assistance for production tools, improvement of economic infrastructure, and others. The community empowerment program in the economic sector is expected to improve the economy and community welfare in various economic fields in rural areas.

3.2.4 Empowerment In Appropriate Technology

This community empowerment program aims to keep the village abreast of developments. Also, the use of technology can improve performance more quickly and accurately. The form of this empowerment program can take the form of training, technology development, and the use of technology in the work and life processes of the community. This community empowerment program is expected to increase community competitiveness, make it easier for people to work, and make it easier for people to share and get information.

3.2.5 Empowerment of Village Government Institutions

Community empowerment in the field of village governance is carried out to increase the capacity and skills of village government institutions in increasing human resources. This empowerment takes the form of training for village government institutions such as the preparation of village program forums, coordination of village program implementation, and improving the quality of village government performance. with the increase in capacity in the field of management and implementation of village governance, the village will understand and know more about the effective use of village funds, according to community needs.

4. CONCLUSION

Village funds are one of the leading programs in increasing the quality and quantity of overall development starting from villagers. Village readiness for the use of village funds requires community participation in determining development direction policies. Thus, community participation has a very large contribution to the success of the development. A region can be said to be advanced if it has good human resources. Therefore, community empowerment with the utilization of village funds accompanied by a level of community participation in carrying out

development will produce maximum development goals, where public trust and participation bring mutual progress for the village government and even the progress of the state.

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