Village Government Strategies to Enhance Community Participation In Development: A Case Study in Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency

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ABSTRACT

Community participation in the development process has become a crucial key to achieving sustainable and inclusive development efforts. This study aims to analyze the efforts made by the Garessi Village government, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, in enhancing community participation in local development. The research method used is a qualitative approach with data collection techniques through in-depth interviews and direct field observations. The results of the study show that the village government has implemented various strategies and programs to enhance community participation, including education, training, and the formation of working groups. Furthermore, cooperation between the village government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector also supports these efforts. However, there are still some challenges such as the high school dropout rate affecting the involvement of young people in development and the limited infrastructure access in some areas. This research contributes significantly to understanding the dynamics of community participation in the context of rural development. The implications of this study are expected to provide insights for village governments in designing more effective policies and programs to enhance community participation in local development.

KEYWORDS
Community, Development, Village, Garessi

INTRODUCTION

The achievements of rural development in Indonesia over the past few years have shown significant progress. Various development programs have been implemented to improve the quality of life in rural communities. One notable achievement is the improvement in basic infrastructure access such as roads, clean water, and electricity, which has had a positive impact on the mobility and welfare of rural communities. Rural development is an integral
part of national development, making it a focal point that receives attention from both the central and local governments (Gutama & Widiyahseno, 2020). Through formal legal regulations of villages and their development, specifically Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (hereinafter referred to as the "Village Law"), villages are managed according to the standards set by this law. The Village Law states in its general provisions that: "Village development is an effort to improve the quality of life and livelihoods for the greatest possible welfare of village communities" (Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages).

The purpose of village development, as stipulated in the Village Law, aims to enhance the welfare of village communities and human life quality while addressing poverty through fulfilling basic needs, developing village facilities and infrastructure, promoting local economic potentials, and utilizing natural resources and the environment sustainably (Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages).

However, rural development still faces several challenges. One major challenge is the development disparities between regions, where some areas still lack basic infrastructure and services. Additionally, limited resources pose obstacles to implementing comprehensive and sustainable development programs. The lack of access to technology and information also hinders productivity and innovation at the village level.

In facing these challenges, the government needs to continue to improve coordination between institutions and support programs that focus on equitable village development. Joint efforts are needed between the government, society and the private sector to overcome these obstacles in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive village development.

Community participation plays a crucial role in sustainable development at the village level. There are various forms of community participation in development programs, categorized into two types: tangible participation (physical contributions) and intangible participation (abstract contributions). Tangible participation includes financial contributions, assets, and labor, while intangible participation involves sharing ideas, decision-making, and representative participation (Isbandi, 2007). The expected form of community participation at this stage is not only providing proposals for development projects but also actively identifying, understanding, and expressing the actual issues and challenges they face (Isbandi, 2007). The contribution of community participation to sustainable development is evident in various aspects, including active participation in planning, implementation, and evaluation of development programs. By involving the community in the development process, local needs and aspirations can be better addressed, making
implemented programs more relevant and directly impactful on the well-being of rural communities.

Positive impacts of community participation in development are also reflected in tangible forms, such as financial contributions that support development activities. Community involvement through financial contributions positively impacts their participation in preserving and developing the outcomes of development initiatives. Additionally, increased sense of ownership and responsibility toward development outcomes leads to better maintenance of infrastructure. Good infrastructure availability has positive effects on community activities, while poor infrastructure can negatively impact various aspects of community life, including agriculture, education, transportation, economy, and public services. This creates a more harmonious and self-reliant environment at the village level, enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of various development initiatives (Sasmito, 2017).

Therefore, community participation is not just a means to bring about positive change in rural development, but also serves as a strong foundation for achieving sustainable and inclusive development. The active role of the community in development also reinforces the principles of local democracy and responsive governance to the needs and aspirations of the local community.

The main challenges faced by village governments in enhancing community participation in development are communication barriers, which are crucial factors in fostering and increasing community participation willingly and actively in every development activity in their village. The communication activities carried out by the Head of Garessi Village to enhance community participation in development have been very effective, as evidenced by the high level of community participation in village development, as demonstrated by their attendance in every implementation of development programs. Communication activities conducted by the Head of Garessi Village are not only done in meetings and deliberations (Village Discussions) but also during visits to neighborhood areas RT/RW (Ardilah et al., 2014). The challenges faced can vary depending on the context and conditions of each village. However, generally, some common challenges include:

1. Lack of Awareness and Understanding Among the Community: One of the main challenges is the lack of awareness and understanding among the community about the importance of participation in development. This can be due to insufficient information provided to the community
about development programs, the benefits of participation, and the mechanisms available for participation.

2. Resource Constraints: Another challenge is resource constraints, both financially and in terms of human resources. Village governments often struggle to allocate sufficient budgets to support community participation programs. Additionally, the lack of skills and capacity among human resources in planning, managing, and monitoring participation programs is also a serious challenge.

3. Limited Active Involvement of the Community: Some villages face challenges in mobilizing the community to participate actively in development. Factors such as lack of confidence, limited free time, and lack of motivation can hinder community participation.

4. Infrastructure Limitations and Accessibility: Inadequate infrastructure and limited accessibility can also be obstacles to increasing community participation. For example, difficult access to meeting places or lack of communication facilities can hinder communication between the village government and the community.

5. Social and Cultural Conditions: Social and cultural factors can also affect the level of community participation in development. For instance, social norms that inhibit women from actively participating or power structures that limit the involvement of minority groups in decision-making.

Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive and integrated strategy, including improving communication and socialization, developing human resource capacity, building adequate infrastructure, and adapting participation programs to the local social and cultural context.

To overcome challenges in increasing community participation in development, village governments can implement several effective strategies. First, through intensive outreach and socialization programs. Socialization is an effort conducted by the Directorate General of Taxes through various methods to provide information related to all regulations and activities related to taxation so that they can be implemented by the general public, especially taxpayers, both individuals and businesses (Boediono et al., 2019). The village government can expand public understanding of the importance of participation in development. This can be achieved through various activities such as community meetings, workshops, seminars, and campaigns via social media.

Furthermore, it is important to enhance human resource capacity (HR). Human resources greatly determine the success process of an organization. Human resource development aims to facilitate the achievement of
organizational goals more easily, as qualified human resources are considered capable of performing tasks and functions as employees within an organization (Apriliana & Nawangsari, 2021). With qualified human resources (HR) in an organization, they can become important assets in the company which can support organizational progress in the future. Thus, the existence of quality human resources (HR) can determine the quality of individuals as key players in advancing the respective organization. The competition that occurs will impact the way an organization operates. This is caused by the desire of each organization to excel in its performance (Apriliana & Nawangsari, 2021).

Communities through training and education. This training includes financial management, program planning, project management, and communication skills that can enhance community capabilities in participating effectively. Additionally, leveraging information technology can also be an effective strategy. By utilizing mobile applications or online platforms, communities can more easily access information, communicate, and participate in various development activities.

The village government, The Village Government is the Village Head or known by other names, assisted by Village apparatus as an element of village government administration. In Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, it explicitly assigns tasks to village governments, namely government administration, implementation of development, community development, and community empowerment based on Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, and Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (Sugiman, 2018). Village government as government administrators are carried out by village heads assisted by village apparatus as elements of village government administration. In national life, government is crucial to regulate, protect, and fulfill the needs of the people because the nature of the state is coercive, monopolistic, and encompasses both. With government, all regions and their boundaries can be controlled, monitored, and easily managed. Every region has its own government and government apparatus starting from villages, urban districts, districts, regencies, provinces, and the central government (Sugiman, 2018). Village governments also need to pay attention to adequate infrastructure development, such as transportation facilities, communication networks, and public services. Good infrastructure can open up community access to actively participate in development. Additionally, it is important to empower marginalized or vulnerable groups, such as women, children, people with disabilities, and minority groups. This empowerment includes providing equal opportunities in decision-making and access to resources.
Optimizing partnerships between village governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and educational institutions also needs to be considered. This cooperation can improve effectiveness and efficiency. The success of a development process cannot be separated from the participation of its members, both as a system unit and as individuals, which is very integral and crucial in the dynamic process of development, because in principle, development is aimed at realizing prosperous communities. Therefore, the responsibility for the success of development is not only in the hands of the government but also in the hands of the people. Awareness and active participation from the community are key to the success of development, in this case, achieving development targets needs to be demonstrated by government wisdom (Akbar et al., 2018).

Community participation programs in development. By implementing these strategies in an integrated and sustainable manner, it is hoped that community participation in development can increase, creating more inclusive development. Social inclusion in village development is a value that directs communities towards two forms of movement, namely community movement as development subjects based on regulations and community movement as subjects eroding marginalization. Both are interrelated where the position of communities eroding marginalization is an integral part of the role of communities in becoming development subjects based on their formal legal foundation. This is based on theoretical and legal foundations (Gutama & Widiyahseno, 2020), sustainable, and has a positive impact on all layers of village communities.

RESEARCH METHODE

The research method used in this study refers to a qualitative approach with a case study research design. The qualitative approach was chosen because it allows researchers to gain a deep understanding of the village government's strategies in enhancing community participation in development. The case study was chosen to focus on a specific case, namely Garessi Village in Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, to provide a clear and detailed overview of the strategies implemented.

1. Literature Review: A literature review was conducted to gather information about the concept of community participation in development, related theories, strategies applied in similar contexts, and relevant conceptual frameworks. Data from the literature review will serve as the basis for designing interview guidelines and data analysis.
2. Participatory Observation: Participatory observation was conducted to directly observe interactions between the village government, community leaders, and community members in the context of development in Garessi Village. Observations were carried out actively and in-depth to understand the dynamics, challenges, and opportunities in efforts to increase community participation.

3. In-depth Interviews: In-depth interviews were conducted with various stakeholders, including village government officials, community leaders, community members, and other relevant parties. These interviews aimed to gather diverse and in-depth perspectives on the village government's strategies, factors influencing community participation, and their experiences and views on development in Garessi Village.

4. Document Analysis: Document analysis was conducted to gather relevant secondary data, such as government policies, development reports, official village documents, and other related documentation. Data from document analysis will be used to support findings from interviews and observations, as well as to strengthen arguments in research findings.

The data collected from these various methods will then be analyzed qualitatively. The qualitative data analysis method used in this research involves several important steps according to Miles and Huberman's approach that assist researchers in exploring the meaning of collected data. Here are some steps in qualitative data analysis according to the Miles and Huberman approach:

1. Data Collection: The initial step is to collect data through various techniques such as interviews, observations, and document analysis.
2. Data Reduction: After collecting data, the next step is to reduce the data by removing irrelevant information or grouping data into smaller and clustered units.
3. Data Display: The reduced data is then displayed in a more structured form, such as tables, diagrams, or matrices. This helps researchers see patterns or relationships among data.
4. Drawing Conclusions: Based on the results of data breakdown, researchers can draw conclusions or make interpretations of emerging findings. This involves a deep understanding of the context and meaning of the generated data.

By following these steps, qualitative data analysis according to the Miles and Huberman approach can provide a deep and systematic understanding of the phenomena under study and generate findings that can be used for theory and practice development.
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Research Results

An open and transparent communication strategy is one of the key aspects revealed in the results of this research. The village government of Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, has practiced an inclusive communication approach with the local community. Through regular meetings, discussion forums, and publication of information via social media, the village government has succeeded in building effective communication channels between the government and the community. This approach not only creates a better understanding of community needs and aspirations but also helps build trust and active involvement in local development processes. Thus, an open and transparent communication strategy has proven to be a strong foundation in increasing community participation in development in Garessi Village.

Empowering local communities is the main focus in this research as one of the village government's strategies to increase community participation in development. Through various training programs, workshops and other educational activities, the village government of Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, is trying to empower the local community holistically.

Community empowerment is very important and is something that must be done considering that recent rapid economic and technological growth will greatly affect the ability of each individual to meet their daily needs. So, to improve community welfare, this is one of the efforts that the government has made as an effort to develop society. What is more important is expanding...
employment opportunities for the community, including for women. With this program, the community will easily overcome the problem of poverty that occurs, especially for women, because here women will play a role in building the family economy (Mukmin Muhammad, 2022).

This approach aims to provide the knowledge, skills and resources necessary for local communities to play an active role in the development process in their region. The results of this local community empowerment can be seen in increasing community participation in development programs, sustainable management of natural resources, as well as improving the quality of life and welfare of the Garessi Village community as a whole. Thus, empowering local communities has proven to be an effective strategy in achieving the village government's goal of increasing community participation in development.

In an effort to increase community participation in development, the village government of Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, is implementing a strategy for using information technology. Through the use of digital platforms and technology-based applications, village governments facilitate faster and more transparent access to information for the community. This allows the public to obtain information related to development policies, government programs, as well as participatory activities that citizens can participate in. Apart from that, information technology is also used in the development reporting and monitoring process, enabling real-time monitoring of project progress and the effectiveness of programs implemented. Thus, the use of information technology has opened access and expanded space for community participation in the development process, as well as increasing the transparency and accountability of village governments in carrying out development programs.

One of the efforts of the Garessi Village government to increase community participation in village development is by involving the community in village development planning through musrenbang, as expressed by Mr. Lukman, Head of Garessi Village, as follows: "Planning for village development in Garessi Village involves managing Village Finances which includes ADD (Village Fund Allocation) and involves the village community through meetings held at the Village Hall, which the community often refers to as MUSRENBANGDES (Village Development Conference). One of the examples discussed was the construction of village buildings and blocked culverts or ditches, but not everyone invited was able to attend the musrenbang" (Interview, 3 June 2022).

Mr Muh. Adil, KAUR General and Village Planning Garessi also explained the village government's efforts to increase community participation
in development by involving the community in development planning. He said, "At the planning stage, we involved the community to provide suggestions/input regarding this village development program. However, some people do not fully understand the programs planned by the village government. We also provide opportunities for the community to provide solutions to solve existing problems in this village so that problems can be handled quickly. MUSRENBANG was also attended by village officials, community leaders and BPD" (Interview, 3 June 2022).

Based on the results of these interviews, it can be concluded that the Garessi Village government has made various efforts to increase community participation in village development. One of the strategies implemented is involving the community in development planning through MUSRENBANGDES (Village Development Conference). However, there are still several challenges faced, such as a lack of community understanding of the programs planned by the village government.

From these two interviews, it is also clear that the village government has provided opportunities for the community to provide suggestions and input regarding village development. However, further efforts are needed to increase community understanding and active participation in the village planning and development process.

Thus, the conclusion is that the Garessi Village government needs to continue to develop open and transparent communication strategies, empowering local communities, using information technology, collaborating and partnering with various parties, as well as providing participation facilities and infrastructure to increase community participation in sustainable village development.

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In the context of research on village government strategies to increase community participation in development in Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, collaboration and partnerships are important aspects that are emphasized. The village government runs various collaborative programs with various parties, including non-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and local communities. This collaboration aims to optimize the resources, knowledge and experience possessed by various parties to achieve more effective and inclusive development goals.

Partnerships with various institutions and organizations are also one of the strategies used to overcome challenges in increasing community participation. Through this partnership, village governments can access additional resources, obtain technical support, and expand work networks in an effort to increase active community participation in various development programs. Apart from that, collaboration and partnerships are also a means of building synergy between various parties in achieving common goals in the development of Garessi Village.

In the context of research regarding village government strategies to increase community participation in development in Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, the provision of participation facilities and infrastructure is a crucial factor. The village government has implemented steps to provide facilities and infrastructure that enable active community participation in the development process.

One of the efforts made is the construction of a public participation space that can be used for meetings, discussions and consultations between the village government and the community. This space is equipped with adequate facilities such as communication and information technology, making it easier to access and communicate between various related parties. Apart from that, providing good accessibility such as adequate transportation routes is also a concern in ensuring community participation from various areas of Garessi Village.

Based on the results of interviews regarding community involvement in development monitoring and evaluation, Mr. Lukman, Head of Garessi Village, stated that, "Monitoring and evaluation is carried out by Garessi Village officials together with the Head of the Village Development Program. However, we also involve the community in the process so that we "can quickly identify obstacles that arise during development implementation. The community here is really active in monitoring village infrastructure development, showing their criticality in monitoring and evaluation" (Interview, 2 July 2022).
Mr. Arman, Head of Garessi Hamlet, also stated, "The community is also involved in monitoring and evaluation, although not all communities are active in implementing it. However, some communities carry out monitoring from the front of their homes" (Interview, 3 July 2022).

This statement was supported by Mr. Muis and Mr. Sapri as community leaders in Garessi Village, who stated, "Yes, we are also active in monitoring and evaluating development. This is important to ensure the suitability of development results with plans that have been agreed upon during village meetings" (Interview, 3 July 2022).

"The community monitors and evaluates infrastructure development in our village, seeing how it is implemented and the results. We want to ensure consistency between planning and the results that the community here will enjoy" (Interview, 4 July 2022).

Based on the results of the interview above, it appears that community involvement in monitoring and evaluating development in Garessi Village is very important. The monitoring and evaluation process involves Garessi Village officials, the Chief Executive of the Village Development Program, and also involves the community. By involving the community, village governments can quickly identify obstacles that arise during development implementation. The Garessi Village community is also actively involved in monitoring village infrastructure, which shows their critical attitude in ensuring consistency between development plans and the results achieved.

Apart from that, the village government also pays attention to providing transparent and easily accessible information to the community regarding development programs that are being implemented. This aims to provide the community with a better understanding of existing participation opportunities and provide opportunities for the community to provide input and feedback on ongoing development programs. Thus, providing participation facilities and infrastructure is an important strategy in ensuring active and sustainable participation of the Garessi Village community in development.

Discussion

Discussion of village government strategies in increasing community participation in development, especially in the case study in Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, is an important focus in the context of local development in Indonesia. In this article, we will discuss several important aspects related to village government strategy and its impact on community participation in development. And it is important to understand that community participation is one of the main pillars of sustainable development. Involving the community in the development planning,
implementation and evaluation process is key to ensuring that the policies and programs implemented are truly in line with the needs and aspirations of the local community. In the context of Garessi Village, the village government has taken various strategies to increase community participation.

One of the strategies implemented by the village government is through the Village Development Conference. In this deliberation, the community is actively involved in formulating village development plans, providing input and suggestions, as well as evaluating projects that have been implemented. Through Musrenbangdes, the community has the opportunity to participate directly in determining the direction of their village's development.

Apart from that, the village government also implements an open and transparent communication strategy. By maintaining good communication between the village government and the community, information related to development policies and programs can be conveyed clearly and easily understood by the community. This helps strengthen community trust in the village government and motivates them to actively participate in development.

In terms of empowering local communities, village governments also play an important role in providing support and opportunities for communities to develop their potential and skills. Collaboration between village government, community leaders and other institutions is key in strengthening the community's role in development. The use of information technology is also one of the strategies implemented to speed up access to information and facilitate community participation. By utilizing technology, the community can more easily access information related to development policies and programs, as well as communicate with the village government efficiently.

The importance of providing participation facilities and infrastructure must also be considered. Village governments need to ensure that communities have adequate access to facilities and infrastructure that support their participation in development, such as representative deliberation rooms and adequate communication facilities.

Overall, the village government's strategy to increase community participation in development in Garessi Village is an inspiring example for other regions in Indonesia. By implementing inclusive and sustainable strategies, it is hoped that community participation in development can increase and have a positive impact on local development as a whole.
CONCLUSION

From the discussion above, it can be concluded that:

1. The village government's strategy to increase community participation in development in Garessi Village, Tanete Rilau District, Barru Regency, has several important aspects. First, through village development deliberations (Musrenbangdes), the community can be directly involved in planning, implementing and evaluating development programs, thereby creating a match between the policies taken and the real needs of the community.

2. An open and transparent communication strategy is the main basis for building trust and active community participation, while empowering local communities, using information technology, collaborating with various parties, and providing participation infrastructure are supporting factors that help optimize community participation in development.

This conclusion emphasizes the important role of village government in creating an environment that supports active community participation in development. Through an inclusive, transparent and sustainable strategy, it is hoped that synergy can be created between the government and the community to achieve sustainable and efficient development for all levels of society in Garessi Village and other areas in Indonesia.

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