

Community Participation towards the Establishment of an Independent Village in Parmonangan Village, Toba Samosir

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Abstract: Law No. 6 of 2014 about Village has provided more space for villagers to participate in village development. Therefore, increasing the capacity of rural communities is important to strengthen the development process so that it reflects the type of development that is participatory. If this is done then the concept of an independent village in accordance with Law No. 6 of 2014 can really be implemented. The program's achievements have resulted in a social engineering concept related to the implementation of independent villages by increasing the capacity of the community and village apparatus. It is expected that the implementation of the concept of an independent village will be able to build synergy between the community and the village apparatus in the process of village planning and development.

1 INTRODUCTION

Village communities are the object of village development which in Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages is given an Lawive role in the village development process. This then makes development of the village to be appropriate in accordance with the needs of the village community. However, it should be noted that the role of the patrimonial political system is a system that thrives in Indonesian society. The political system that tends to be massive will massively create a passive society in development. The assumption that public policy in the village is the domain of the village elite is an assumption that will be a threat in the implementation of participatory village development.

In an effort to accelerate development from the periphery, the Indonesian government carried out the mandate of Law No. 6 of 2014 by allocating village funds from the State Budget (APBN) whose numbers continue to increase from year to year. In 2015 the amount of village funds amounted to Rp 20.8 trillion, in 2016 Rp 46.8 trillion, in 2017 Rp 60 trillion, in 2018 Rp 111 trillion. With this prestigious amount of funds, the Ministry of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration (Kemendes PDTT) declared the realization of 2,000

independent villages by the end of 2019 (Suryanto, 2017).

Law No. 6 of 2014 also explains that village development aims to improve the welfare of rural communities and the quality of human life and poverty reduction through meeting basic needs, construction of village facilities and infrastructure, development of local economic potential and sustainable use of natural resources and the environment. It is explained in the third part that in village development we must prioritize togetherness, kinship and mutual cooperation in order to realize the mainstreaming of peace and social justice.

The study of the independent village was carried out in Samosir Regency, precisely in the Parmonangan village. On the environmental aspect, Samosir Regency has various problems that have not been resolved. One example is the use of pesticides for agriculture and their adverse effects on the Lake Toba ecosystem. Along with the development of community life on Lake Toba, many things are feared to hit Lake Toba, ecological damage is one of the main. This damage is caused by a variety of things, from the habits of local people who make the lake as a place for household waste disposal, this condition is caused by community activities around Lake Toba which makes Lake Toba as the disposal of household waste, agricultural waste, to industrial waste. According to Presidential Regulation Number 49 Year 2016 indicates the seriousness of the central

government to create Lake Toba area that is worthy of being a tourist site that is internationally competitive. If referring to the policy, the villages in the vicinity of the Lake Toba area should be able to prepare their communities in the national long-term project through participatory development.

Law No. 6 of 2014 Article 72 paragraph 3 mandates that villages are entitled to a share of the revenues of regional taxes and district/city levies of at least 10%. If managed independently and productively, the revenue-sharing funds allocated for this village fund will create various types of businesses that will lead to an increase in the economy. In addition, the allocation of village funds is also useful as a means of accelerating development growth.

Parmonangan Village is one of the villages in the Samosir district. Similar to the problems of various villages in general in implementing Law No. 6 of 2014, the quality of human resources is also still a serious problem in Parmonangan Village. Based on data from the Central Statistics Agency in 2016 it can be seen that as many as 60% of the people of Parmonangan Village are graduated from Junior High School (SMP). Implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 can be a blessing for the village community, at least in its implementation the village community will get a big role in the development of the village where they live. However, the implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 also placed a moral burden on villagers. The reality that occurs in the field can be seen by villages as if forced to be able to manage their funds, government and resources independently without being accompanied by careful preparation of all aspects in it. This then makes village development planning still not show the characteristics of the implementation of participatory development. Most Parmonangan villagers are still passive towards the implementation of their village development. This is due to the lack of knowledge about the concept of independent village development.

2 METHOD

Data was collected using the focus group discussion (FGD) method. The implementation of this method will involve all stakeholders in the village. This method will train the sensitivity of all stakeholders in the village in seeing the problems encountered in the development process. The presentation from the village apparatus regarding how the governance that has been running so far, then discuss it together

when adjusted to the Village Law No. 6 of 2014. Furthermore, the FGD results are analyzed to get a conclusion on how independence in Parmonangan Village will be achieved.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Through Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning the Village, the village seemed to have full power to carry out development independently through various authorities it has. But the thing to remember is that giving authority is also a process that is too early. How not, only with a period of approximately one year the Village Law has been confidently implemented by the Indonesian government.

If you look at the history that has been passed through the villages that have been described previously as if creating a big question about the readiness of the village to create prosperity for the region. This is based on the readiness of the villages themselves in managing their various rights. Ready or not, village officials must be willing to manage these funds in a transparent and accountable manner. Village officials must learn how to develop a development agenda starting from the required resource plan, the implementation process to indicators of achieving the agenda. In addition, village apparatus must study the payment system, accounting system, and reporting in accordance with applicable laws and regulations as a form of accountability to the public.

That explanation is one of the discussion materials as introduction to participants so that they understand that the village autonomy contained in the Village Law has experienced a very long journey. It is hoped that with this village autonomy the community is expected to be able to utilize village funds in accordance with their hopes and needs. Therefore the spirit of village development participation must continue to be increased to maximize the development process.

This activity turned out to get a very good response from the community. The community has begun to be able to explain the constraints it faces on an operational basis. The head of the village was very enthusiastic in this activity. After the presentation, the material continued with discussion. The theme of the first discussion relates to the function of The Village Representative Body (BPD) in accommodating the aspirations of rural communities.

The interesting thing that is gained is understanding in conveying aspirations. The

community understands that in conveying aspirations it cannot only be conveyed to The Village Representative Body. The community actually has a variety of platforms that should be effective in increasing the absorption of community aspirations such as the clan gathering, Partangiangan activities (Christian prayer events) and various other activities. These containers should be optimized for the absorption of new aspirations of figures in the container to convey them to The Village Representative Body (BPD).

The Parmonangan Village Head also considered that it was difficult if the community waited for meeting rooms initiated by the village government. Several times the activities carried out by the community were reluctant to come. The perception of "discouraged", where the community assesses its presence will not help many development activities due to inadequate skills and quality of education. The discussion theme then moves to the desire to build a village-owned enterprise. The interesting thing found is the awareness to be able to have a joint business in the village that can provide mutual benefits. Several village leaders explained that the effort must reflect the strong will of the people of the Village to move forward, produce proud village products / capabilities and abilities.

The village is expected to be able to meet its needs, intention, work, while the village covers the economic, cultural and social fields which are based on three forces namely:

1. The development of rural and inter-village economic activities,
2. The strength of the village participatory system,
3. The development of communities in villages that are economically and socio culturally strong.

Therefore, the community must be able to present their initiatives, work, and participation in the planning process, development implementation, and program evaluation. If a village-owned enterprise should be a necessity then that is then a priority. In Law Number 6 Year 2014, village-owned enterprise (BUMDes) is a business entity that in whole or most of its capital is owned by the village through direct participation based on village assets that are separated to manage assets, service services, and other businesses, as much as possible for the welfare of the community village (Sidik, 2015).

Furthermore, the solutions offered by representatives of community groups so that the village of Parmonangan towards independence:

1. Optimizing small groups in the village such as youth clubs, NHKBP, clan arisan groups and

others as a source of village development aspirations,

2. Providing space for the community to participate in the implementation of village development,
3. Prioritize agricultural development as a step to improve the economy of rural communities dominated by farmers,
4. Establish a village-owned enterprise (BUMDes) that can accommodate the agricultural output of rural communities.

These four solutions are considered by the community to change the situation of the local village. Small groups in the village have so far been underused in efforts to absorb aspirations. Various daily activities of the people tend to be lazy in participating in village activities or meetings. This is seen by the dedication team as a factor influencing village development which is still far from the expectations of the community. On the side of the village community more enthusiastic about participating in activities such as clan gathering, worship activities, and youth activities. Therefore, the village government and The Village Representative Body (BPD) today must be able to absorb the aspirations of small group activities in the village.

Referring to the research that has been conducted by Arifah and Kusumastuti (2018), there are four strategies towards the independent village:

1. Carry out a mapping of village potentials and market networks that can be managed to become a source of village economy,
2. Applying methods of coaching and directing or mentoring to accelerate development in the socio-cultural aspects, strengthening the capacity of village government and structuring village administration,
3. Building synergy between village development planning and regional planning, and national planning. To form an independent village requires careful planning so that development can proceed properly and existing obstacles can be controlled,
4. Building village governance into a modern, village-based cultural organization.

Parmonangan Village can develop strategies that might be formulated by combining what has been formulated from the results of village discussions with the results of research that has been done elsewhere. This will provide additional insights into improvements towards an independent village.

In the aspect of agriculture, many people consider that village funds which have been the foundation of village development cannot be

massively optimized for the development of the agricultural sector. There are two big problems that currently exist in the Parmonangan Village community today including the existence of middlemen allegedly there because of the limited access and sales network owned by coffee farmers. This situation makes farmers choose to sell their farmed coffee to middlemen. That way the community will more quickly get money that can be used to make ends meet. With the existence of village-owned enterprise (BUMDes), farmers hope that they will no longer have to sell their coffee to middlemen.

In addition, with the addition of innovation, coffee produced by farmers in Parmonangan Village is expected to have a better sale value. In Husaeni's research (2017) it was found the importance of implementing the concept of community empowerment in overcoming problems that exist in society. Community empowerment is a concept of economic development that encapsulates social values. This concept reflects the 'people-centered' development paradigm, participatory, empowering, and sustainable.

The concept of empowerment is broader than just efforts to meet basic needs or just mechanisms to prevent. By implementing community empowerment, it is expected that the community will be aware to move their abilities in overcoming problems.

4 CONCLUSION

Some conclusions that the Parmonangan Village towards independence is to optimize synergy with small groups in the village such as youth clubs, NHKBP, clan gathering, arisan (social gathering groups) and others as a source of village development aspirations. These small groups can provide space for the community to participate in the implementation of village development.

Commitment in developing villages in accordance with the mandate of Law No. 6 of 2014 focused on the participation of all elements of village communities, especially village communities. Previously, apathy had always been a scourge for the village government in involving the community in all series of village development activities. After community service activities are carried out, the people of Parmonangan Village are more active in every activity carried out in the village.

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