

YOUTH ROLES IN DEVELOPING VILLAGE ECONOMIES

PERAN PEMUDA DALAM MENGEMBANGKAN EKONOMI DESA

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze the role of youth as dynamic, motivating, and innovative forces in rural development planning, as well as to identify the obstacles they face. The study employs a descriptive method with a qualitative approach, using three data collection techniques: observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis involves data reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing. However, there are several obstacles that hinder the youth's ability to carry out village area development, including the government's lack of concern for the development of Pegagan Julu youth and the high ego nature of the youth. The research findings indicate that youth in villages play a crucial role as dynamists, motivators, and innovators in rural development planning. However, there are several obstacles that hinder the youth's ability to carry out village area development, including the government's lack of concern for the development of Pegagan Julu youth and the high ego nature of the youth. However, there are several obstacles that hinder the youth's ability to carry out village area development, including the government's lack of concern for the development of Pegagan Julu youth and the high ego nature of the youth. It is important to address these obstacles to ensure successful rural development planning.

Keywords: Youth, Village, Ekonomi

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran pemuda sebagai kekuatan yang dinamis, memotivasi, dan inovatif dalam perencanaan pembangunan desa, serta mengidentifikasi hambatan yang mereka hadapi. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif dengan pendekatan kualitatif, dengan menggunakan tiga teknik pengumpulan data: observasi, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Analisis data yang digunakan adalah reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Namun, ada beberapa kendala yang menghambat kemampuan pemuda dalam melakukan pembangunan wilayah desa, termasuk kurangnya kepedulian pemerintah terhadap perkembangan pemuda Pegagan Julu dan sifat ego yang tinggi dari para pemuda. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pemuda di desa memiliki peran penting sebagai dinamisor, motivator, dan inovator dalam perencanaan pembangunan desa. Namun, ada beberapa kendala yang menghambat kemampuan pemuda dalam melakukan pembangunan wilayah desa, antara lain kurangnya kepedulian pemerintah terhadap perkembangan pemuda Pegagan Julu dan sifat ego pemuda yang tinggi. Namun, terdapat beberapa kendala yang menghambat kemampuan pemuda dalam melakukan pembangunan wilayah desa, diantaranya adalah kurangnya kepedulian pemerintah terhadap perkembangan pemuda Pegagan Julu dan sifat ego yang tinggi dari para pemuda. Kendala-kendala tersebut perlu diatasi agar perencanaan pembangunan desa dapat berjalan dengan baik.

Kata Kunci: Pemuda, Desa, Ekonomi

INTRODUCTION

National development implemented by the Government is essentially equitable development for all Indonesian communities and regions. The entire development process must be carried out jointly by the community and government. The community is the main actor in development and the government is obliged to direct, guide and create an atmosphere that supports the smooth development process. In the

development process, society and government must support and complement each other in a unified movement towards achieving the goal of national development.

According to Siagian (1983), development is a series of planned growth and change efforts carried out consciously by a nation, state, and government towards modernity in the context of nation-building. This passage demonstrates that the definition of

development centers around the concept that it is a conscious and planned effort, aimed at achieving predetermined national and state goals. The process of development is ongoing and leads to modernization.

Rural development is a crucial aspect of equitable national development, and it must be supported by all levels of society. It is an integral part of comprehensive national development. Village development is a planned effort by the government and community to improve community welfare in various aspects of life, including economic, political, social, and cultural. The implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages is a strategic policy to accelerate the process of equitable development in Indonesia. This policy demonstrates a commitment to achieving equitable development. The regulation is accompanied by direct funding to the Village Government from the Central Government, which is budgeted annually in the State Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN).

According to Law Number 6 of 2014, a Village is a legal community unit with territorial boundaries that is authorized to regulate and manage government affairs based on community initiatives, origin rights, and/or traditional rights recognized and respected in the government system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. This includes traditional villages or other similarly named units. The sentence structure is simple and the logical flow of information is maintained. No changes in content were made. The Law on Villages is a regulation that governs the implementation of village government.

The aim of village regulation is to recognize and respect the diversity of existing villages, both before and after

the formation of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. It provides clarity on the status and legal certainty of villages within the constitutional system of the Republic of Indonesia, in order to achieve justice for all Indonesian people. Additionally, it aims to preserve and promote the customs, traditions, and culture of the village community. Another aim is to encourage initiatives, movements, and participation of village communities to develop their potential and assets for shared prosperity. This includes forming a professional, efficient, effective, open, and responsible village government. Additionally, public services for village residents should be improved to accelerate the realization of general welfare.

The success of development implementation relies heavily on the involvement of all components of society through participatory development. This approach positions the community as the driving force and subject of development, rather than just the object or beneficiary. By fostering community participation, individuals feel a sense of ownership and responsibility for the development process and its outcomes. Community participation can lead to community empowerment because it allows the community to take control of the process towards achieving the desired community welfare.

A participatory approach to development means that the community takes the initiative to start activities for change for the better. Community participation can be achieved through active citizen involvement in the entire development process. A large population combined with high participation can make it a major force in all activities. Additionally, the majority of the population is of productive age, which

can have a positive impact on the development process.

The presence of a sizable working-age population offers a valuable source of labor, entrepreneurs, and potential consumers who play a crucial role in driving national development. However, as noted by Yuwanto (2019), many young individuals remain indifferent or unresponsive to development initiatives due to preoccupations such as early marriage, childcare responsibilities, involvement in illicit drugs, and other negative pursuits.

Village development planning is a model for exploring the potential and ideas for development, with a focus on community participation throughout the process. This concept is based on the values of mutual cooperation deeply rooted in Indonesian culture, as noted by Sumpeno (2011). Development is a deliberate process of change aimed at meeting the needs of society, as described by Nawawi (2009). Village development planning is formulated in the Village Musrenbang forum. The Village RPJM is formulated for a period of six years, while the Village RKP is formulated for a period of one year. The Village RPJM and Village RKP results serve as a reference for determining the Village APB.

Sumaryadi (2005) outlines five basic principles for community empowerment: 1) Break-even points must be achieved in all managed activities; 2) Community participation is essential in both planning and implementation; 3) Training activities are integral to physical development efforts; 4) Empowerment efforts must maximize available resources; 5) Community empowerment activities must serve as a link between macro government interests and micro community interests.

According to Government Regulation Number 59 of 2013 concerning Youth Leadership Development, youth are defined as Indonesian citizens aged 16 to 30 who are entering an important period of growth and development. As the epicenter of the nation's hopes, they must hone their knowledge and skills to become complete individuals (Ardiyansari, et al, 2019).

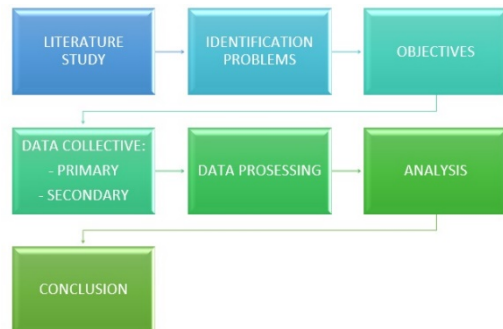
According to Khalil (2015), youth have several roles, including acting as dynamists who drive community participation as facilitators. When obstacles arise in the development process, their role is to provide intensive and effective guidance to the community. According to Wiryasaputra (2006), a mentor is responsible for implementing the mentoring process and determining the timing and location of development planning.

Additionally, Darmadi (2011) defines a motivator as someone who instigates change and creates or accelerates events. In this context, young people serve as both mentors and motivators, driving innovation. Innovators are improving development planning participation to enhance the stages of the planning process.

METHOD

This study utilizes a descriptive method with a qualitative approach to thoroughly examine the role of youth in rural development planning. Qualitative research methods generate descriptive data through written or spoken words from individuals and observable behavior (Moleong, 2011). Qualitative research describes at least three aspects: the characteristics of the perpetrators, the activities or events that occurred during the research, and the environmental conditions or characteristics of the research location (Usman and Akbar,

2009). The data analysis in this study systematically compiles data obtained from interviews, field notes, and documentation related to the role of youth as dynamic, motivating, and innovative individuals. The analysis process involves three simultaneous activities: data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions/verification.



Graphic 1. Flowchart Research Method

RESULT & DISCUSSION

In order to achieve national development goals, which include the creation of a just and prosperous society, community participation is crucial in any development process in Indonesia. The active and positive involvement of village communities in development can make villages the forefront of national development.

However, this must be accompanied by the implementation of participatory village development patterns. Participatory village development patterns can help overcome the uneven development experienced by the nation and state. This approach can make villages a pillar of development, as they become one of the main supports in the national development process.

The successful implementation of good governance in the village will be demonstrated by the participation of all members of the village community in the development process. Community participation, including that of village

youth, is essential as they are key agents of change in the development process. According to Reynaldi et al. (2021), youth play a crucial role in the development of villages due to their energy and strength. They also hold a strategic position in national development, as evidenced by the 2020 population census conducted by BPS, which recorded that 53.81 percent of Indonesians belong to the younger generation. This demonstrates that the participation of young individuals will be a significant driving force in the development of the nation towards a fair and prosperous society.

The proportion of young people in Indonesia's population is a significant factor in the country's development, including in rural areas. To build up villages, young people must be willing to live there and work together. The government should provide infrastructure in rural areas to channel the creativity and innovation of young people, so they do not have to migrate to cities in search of employment. In Indonesia's struggle for independence, youth played a significant role in seizing and defending the Republic of Indonesia's independence.

The village government should provide ample opportunities for young people to participate in every development process in the village. This will allow for the utilization of the creativity and innovation of young people for positive development. It is important to avoid subjective evaluations and maintain a clear, objective language with precise word choice. The text should adhere to conventional structure and formal register, while ensuring grammatical correctness and avoiding bias.

The content of the improved text must be as close as possible to the source text, and no new aspects should be

added. They should think openly, have broad enthusiasm and creativity, and contribute critical thinking towards sustainable development. The success of village development largely depends on the active participation of its youth. According to Wantu et al. (2021), the role of youth in village development is crucial as they are the driving force behind it. The development process in the village requires active involvement from all components of society. The potential of the village can be harnessed for the prosperity of the community through the innovation and creativity of its youth.

The role of a dynamist is to mobilize the community to participate in village development planning deliberations in Pegagan Julu. Although the Village Development Planning Conference has been in existence for several years, participation is still not optimal due to a lack of understanding of the procedures for developing the region. Outreach or education to the community, including local youth, is necessary for village development planning. This will enable youth to mobilize the community and participate actively in the Village Development Planning Conference.

This socialization can assist the village government in creating a conducive society. In this case, the youth will educate the community about the importance of participating in village development planning deliberations. Young people can effectively achieve this by building individual or group communication aimed at mobilizing the community to be active in village development planning.

In addition to mobilizing the community to participate in village development planning deliberations, youth also mobilize them to provide input or responses. This activity is similar to mobilizing the community to

participate in village development planning deliberations, but the difference is that here the community is mobilized by youth to provide responses or input in these deliberations.

Youth play a crucial role in encouraging community involvement through constructive criticism and suggestions. They also mobilize the community to participate in decision-making processes related to village development planning. After deliberation, decisions are made jointly and implemented or supported accordingly. Community involvement is crucial for making informed decisions during village development deliberations. However, the level of involvement was suboptimal due to the limited knowledge of the community members about village development planning. The solution to this problem is to hold socialization sessions related to development planning, particularly for village development. This will enable the community, especially young people, to make maximum contributions.

Youth can serve as motivators. However, it is important that they set a good example when conducting activities aimed at motivating village communities. One way for youth to fulfill this role is by forming youth organizations and actively participating in them. For instance, a group of village youth has formed a village organization for motivating their communities.

The purpose of forming this youth organization is to raise awareness of the importance of organizations and to unite the community in village development. Apart from forming youth organizations, young people are also active in mutual cooperation activities to motivate village communities. They maintain village security by being active in security maintenance. As motivators, youth encounter few difficulties. In

general, the community values the activities carried out by youth as motivators and hopes that they will continue to serve as motivators in every village.

So far, young people have been innovating in regional development planning through monthly online discussions. The language used was clear, objective, and value-neutral, with a formal register and precise word choice; the text adhered to conventional structure and formatting features, with a consistent citation and footnote style; the logical flow of information was maintained through causal connections between statements; the text was free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors.

These groups focused on village development planning and provided a platform for scientific discussions. This activity offers young people the opportunity to present innovative positive community activities in the village. The role of youth as innovators is to make reforms that can unite the community and have a positive impact on village development.

There are various factors that support or inhibit the development of rural areas. One supporting factor is the presence of many young people who study in urban areas. This has the effect of emphasizing the importance of education in building, developing, and making villages independent. Education plays a crucial role in the progress of a nation, and the quality of a nation's education is a determining factor in its advancement.

Therefore, the government aims to enhance the quality of human resources in the education sector. After completing senior secondary education, many children pursue higher education, often in Medan or Java, while some opt for employment. During college holidays, a

significant number of young people return to their hometowns, which can support village development. Having young people study outside of their hometowns and gain knowledge and experience can have a positive impact on the development of rural areas.

Natural potential can support village development. Various natural resources in villages, such as agriculture, beaches, forests, and more, can serve as the basic capital for economic development. This potential can make village development possible and turn rural areas into tourist destinations, including agrotourism. Youth play an important role in cultivating this natural potential.

There are numerous organizations available, including Karang Taruna, a social organization comprised of village youth that plays a crucial role in village development, particularly in the social sector. Additionally, Karang Taruna has been acknowledged for its contributions to the implementation of Social Welfare, as outlined in Law Number 11 of 2009 regarding Social Welfare. Youth organizations play a crucial role in society and contribute significantly to the development of villages. To achieve their goals and objectives, it is important for these organizations to involve the village government. The membership of young people in these organizations is an added advantage.

Karang Taruna Institute is a youth organization that aims to promote social responsibility and address village social problems. It encourages the younger generation to be proactive in anticipating, preventing, and countering social issues. The language used is clear, objective, and free from biased or emotional language. Technical terms are explained when first used, and the text is grammatically correct. The structure is

logical, with causal connections between statements.

The content of the improved text is as close as possible to the source text, with no additional aspects added. To develop the abilities of the younger generation in implementing social welfare, this can be achieved through social rehabilitation, social security, social empowerment, and social protection. Additionally, building the character of the younger generation is important. They should be knowledgeable, personable, skilled, intelligent, innovative, and creative.

In addition, it is a means to develop the potential and ability of the young generation, foster the spirit of social entrepreneurship and independence, improve social welfare, motivate the young generation to become a unifying force in the diverse social, national and state life, and establish synergy and cooperation with various parties to achieve greater social welfare.

Karang Taruna was established as a platform for the younger generation to develop organizational skills and contribute to village development, with the main goal of achieving social prosperity. In fulfilling its duties to realize social welfare, this organization encounters various internal and external obstacles. Hertanti (2018) identifies several obstacles that the Karang Taruna organization faces in improving village development. These include a lack of awareness among younger generations about the organization's institutional existence and insufficient outreach to the community regarding its programs.

Karang Taruna exists to provide a forum for youth to effectively participate in developing the Village. Structured and continuous socialization about the organization's institutions and programs is needed to maximize its role. With strong institutional support, Karang

Taruna Organization can become a platform for the younger generation to express their creativity and innovation in the village development process and ultimately achieve the organization's goal of promoting social welfare.

Karang Taruna's existence as a forum for empowering the younger generation is strategic and increasingly necessary to address issues such as unemployment and poverty. One way to address these issues is through efforts to develop the entrepreneurship sector based on Ashary (2016). With the current advancements in information technology, creative industries run by young people are growing and can generate income for the society. The development of creative industries in rural areas can have a positive impact on employment rates, leading to economic growth and increased community welfare.

The empowerment of youth organizations can also improve the behavior of the younger generation, increasing their awareness and responsibility for the development of their villages according to Novitasari and Susanto (2019). The young population in Indonesia presents both an opportunity and a challenge for development. It is important to engage youth in the development process to avoid them becoming a burden. On the other hand, youth who are actively involved in all stages of the development process, from planning to implementation and monitoring, can be a powerful force in achieving development goals.

Efforts to increase youth participation in development can be achieved through the optimization of the institutional functions of Karang Taruna in the villages. This can be done by providing opportunities for the younger generation to showcase their innovation and creativity in village development.

The aim of the optimization of the role of Karang Taruna is to enable it to make a significant contribution to village development and to provide solutions to any problems the community may face. The active involvement of young people in the development process can lead to effective and efficient achievement of goals.

There are supporting and inhibiting factors affecting the situation. One of the inhibiting factors is the lack of direction from the local government. Direction refers to the guidance or instructions provided by a superior to subordinates or people organized in formal groups, or from a leader to group members in non-formal groups (Hamid, 2018).

In this case, direction refers to the instructions given by the village government to village youth regarding actions they should take to contribute to the development of the village. Providing direction is crucial for young people who wish to engage in activities that align with their community status. In this case, the young man is a community member and the village government holds the position of village head or chairman. The most significant inhibiting factor is the answer in or. This is because the direction from the village government is the spearhead of successful development in the village.

One problem is that young people may not fully understand the concept of village development planning. It involves the village government, the village advisory body, and community members in a participatory process of allocating and using village resources for achieving development objectives. Development is a long-term process.

It requires precise and accurate planning to stimulate sustainable economic and social growth. Planning should cover when, where, and how

development will be carried out. This means that planners must be able to predict the impacts of development in both the short and long term.

Low youth awareness is one factor contributing to the lack of participation in village development activities. According to Cohen and Uphoff, as quoted by Astuti (2011), there are four types of participation: decision making, implementation, utilization, and evaluation.

Some young people do not want to participate in village activities due to their limited knowledge. If we refer to Cohen and Uphoff's theory, as quoted by Astuti (2011), we can conclude that there are still young people who have not participated in decision-making related to ideas or issues that concern the common interest. Forms of participation in decision-making include contributing ideas or thoughts, attending meetings, participating in discussions, and responding to or rejecting the programs offered.

The egoistic nature of young people can hinder development that does not align with the village's needs and regulations. The egoistic nature of young people can hinder development that does not align with the village's needs and regulations. It is important to prioritize village development based on the village's needs and regulations. The egoistic nature of young people can hinder development that does not align with the village's needs and regulations. Additionally, some individuals may not consider village development as the main priority.

There are those who prefer to make personal decisions as opposed to those made after deliberating. This can lead to reliance on ego, particularly when they feel that development does not benefit them. Today's youth, in particular, may be hesitant to participate in village

meetings and prioritize their own interests. However, they are expected to be the successors who will carry out development planning in the village.

CONCLUSION

Youth play an active role as dynamists by mobilizing the community to participate in village development planning deliberations, provide input, and be involved in decision-making. Youth motivators can be observed through their involvement in youth organizations and inviting residents to work together for village security. Innovators can be identified by their creation of online scientific discussion groups related to village development planning and organizing sports activities for positive youth engagement in rural development planning. These actions contribute to the overall development of the village. Obstacles to youth participation in rural area development planning for village area development include: lack of government support for village development, youth's limited understanding of village development planning, low levels of youth engagement, and high levels of ego among young people.

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