Turnitin 23. The Role of Community Empowerment

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The Role Of Community Empowerment In Development At Marusu Sub-District Maros Regency

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Abstract.

This research aims to identify the factors that play a role in community empowerment in development at Marusu Subdistrict, Maros Regency. The research results show that factors that influence community participation in development in Marusu Subdistrict, Maros Regency are factors that originate from within the community itself, for example, the level of education, community income, and the community's self-awareness which is based on the religion that they adhere to. Apart from that, it is also caused by factors originating from the surrounding and outside environment of the community, including government leadership and their members or staffs (apparatus).

Keywords: *The Role of Community Empowerment and Community Development.*

I. INTRODUCTION

To realize development goals, all-natural potential must be explored, developed, and utilized as well as possible. Likewise, human potential in the form of a large population must increase their knowledge and skills. So that, they can explore, develop, and utilize natural potential to the maximum, and the implementation of development programs is achieved. Various development plans and programs as a form of government implementation have been created and implemented in sub-district areas, both implemented by the central government through vertical agencies in the regions, and the government itself. One of the government programs is development carried out by the community independently, or by other non-government institutions that have development programs in the form of community empowerment.The aim of development programs requires a managerial pattern in managing development for each institution. This managerial pattern is intended, so that the results of development and other government programs can be felt and benefited by the community. One of the things needed is awareness and active participation from the entire community in supporting the successful implementation of development programs. Apart from that, government policy is also needed to direct and guide the community to jointly implement development programs.Participation of community is essential in efforts to achieve government program targets throughout the territory of the Republic of Indonesia. Success in achieving development program implementation targets is not solely based on the ability of government officials but is also related to efforts to realize the community's ability and security to participate in the implementation of development programs. The participation of the community will be able to make ballance the limited costs and capacity of the government in achieving the implementation of the development program.

One aspect of empowerment is a process as well as the result of that process[1]. Empowerment can also be interpreted as a concept that improves quality, including human resources or economic quality[2]. Empowerment is also part of the development paradigm which focuses on all principal aspects of humans in their environment, starting from Human Resources (HR)/intellectual, material, and physical aspects, to managerial aspects[3]. The main aim of empowerment is to strengthen the power of society, especially weak groups who are powerless due to internal and external conditions[4]. Community empowerment in Indonesia has become a national program for the government and private sector[5]. Community empowerment is nothing more than an effort to overcome poverty and underdevelopment[6].Furthermore, community empowerment does not only make the community dependent on various charity programs but it has a main approach in the concept of empowerment where the community is made the object of various development

projects, but this is rather the subject of the development efforts themselves[7]. Empowerment of coastal communities must be a bottom-up and open menu, but the most important thing is that the empowerment itself must directly touch the target community group[8]. Empowerment of coastal communities should be more directed at community empowerment related to the potential of the village itself. Unfortunately, this enormous potential has not been utilized optimally, so coastal communities in Indonesia are still in poor condition, in other words, they are still not prosperous[9][10].The existence of infrastructure development and economic growth tends to be enjoyed more by residents who live in urban areas than residents who live in coastal areas (hinterland), so there tends to be a gap between residents in urban areas and residents in coastal areas[11].

Coastal communities are meant to be communities that live in coastal areas and whose source of economic life depends directly on the utilization of marine and coastal resources through fishing and cultivation activities[12]. People who live in Indonesia's coastal areas are known as poor, slum and underdeveloped areas[13][14]. Coastal community economics is an activity to manage coastal resources and the people who live in the area[15]. Furthermore, to improve the welfare of the fishing community, the aim is to educate fishermen so that they are more independent and have the ability to live better by utilizing and accessing existing resources optimally and sustainably[16]. It turns out that the magnitude of marine potential is not accompanied by the welfare of the fishing community. This can be seen through the socio-economic conditions of fishermen which are still very different from their natural resource potential[17]. Furthermore, to optimize community empowerment, we should build the basic construction of creating social cohesion aimed at preventing social conflict followed by improving the quality of social life, especially for local communities[18].By using field observation methods and in-depth interviews that the researchers conducted with fishing communities in coastal areas, it is known that the empowerment of fishermen has not been optimal in supporting regional development through meeting needs, thereby encouraging the government to provide services and attention. For this reason, the state of the art in this research is what is the role of the community in development in Marusu Subdistrict, Maros Regency?

II. METHODS

This research used a qualitative descriptive approach, with a multisystemic approach model to provide a general description of the research location[19]. A qualitative descriptive research approach is used to thoroughly analyze the researchers' main ideas about the subject in the form of discourse and specific context[20]. The data collection method is documentation review, in-depth interviews and observation[21]. Equatora & Rahayu, interpret this process as a systematic and standard procedure for collecting data by conducting documentation studies, in-depth interviews and observations[22].

According to Bell & Willmott, there is a correlation between data collection, documentation, in-depth interviews, and observations with unsolved research questions[23]. Therefore, a qualitative descriptive method was formulated to provide answers to problems. Furthermore, this research uses a triangulation and interaction model approach aimed at analyzing data obtained from research[24]. This model is useful in checking the validity of the data so that it can provide a comparison between the results of documentation and interviews. Thus, the procedures used to evaluate the results of observations and interviews using interviews are: (1) compiling various forms of question instruments, (2) re-checking data sources, and (3) utilizing methods that allow checking valid data[25].

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

As it is known, development is not only an effort by the government or the community alone but it is a joint activity whose results are expected to provide prosperity and well-being for all levels of society. The success of the development of the Marusu sub-district is a reflection of the success of national development, therefore the emphasis of national development is placed on sub-district development.If the development is carried out in the sub-district area, it is clear that the participation of the sub-district community is the key to its success. However, the role of the community in the development process is many factors that influence the level of involvement in development. According to the researchers, the factors that influence community

participation in development in Marusu Subdistrict are internal factors which include awareness, education, and income. Meanwhile, external factors include government leadership and equipment/facilities.

1. Awareness/Willing Factor

Participation in a development activity does not just arise, but someone who encourages participation. One of them is the factor of public awareness itself. If community members are aware of the importance of development, then they obviously will also be more involved in it. This is intended so that the ideals of development can be achieved, namely providing a prosperous life to all community members, as is also the case with the residents of Marusu Subdistrict, which is the location of this research. The reason of the informant answered was the personal awareness factor which was the driving force for community participation in development because there was a concern or awareness to be involved either directly or indirectly in the development. The results of the interview, illustrate that: *"The reason for us to participate because we still have a high sense of solidarity among members of the community to help each other. We are also used to working together. But sometimes there are problems because someone is working" (interview, 17th* November 2023).

2. Educational Factors

One of the factors that causes various changes in the world is education. If it is related to the level of education and development community participation, the reality shows that there is a close relationship. Communities with a high level of education usually pay great attention to development activities carried out, both development carried out by the government and those carried out by the community. It is through high education that they understand the importance of the development being carried out and they generally feel happy to be involved in the development, but on the other hand, if people have low education, it was difficult for them to understand what and how important the development being carried out is. Because of this ignorance, an indifferent and ignorant attitude towards development arises. This fact illustrates how big the influence of education is on community participation in development.

Development in the form of ideas and thoughts is usually issued by people who have a higher level of education. Many of those present at the development, discussion meetings were people who had a high level of education, according to the words of Mr. Sirajuddin, Head of Development for Marusu Subdistrict. *"Sometimes there are more people who come when discussing development, namely people who understand. And also, people who can talk. And from the data we obtained, they were indeed in the category of educated people" (Interview, 16 November 2023).*

From this description, it can be seen that the higher a person's level of education, the lower the level of participation in the form of energy. According to information from several informants who gave less active answers, this was because there was a certain job that could not be abandoned. When compared with people with low levels of education, it could be seen that even though they could not participate in the form of providing suggestions/ideas, they more actively participate in the form of participation in development work.

3. Income Factor

After knowing that the educational factor greatly influences community participation in development, the following will also explain how income/revenue influences development, especially in the form of donations of money/funds. Based on people's different incomes, their participation in development can vary. Apart from the income being not the same, the level of activity (working time) is also different. All of this can reduce participation in development. This is the author's observation during conducting research which was confirmed by several informants who were interviewed directly.

Based on this description, it is clear that the participation of people with high incomes and medium incomes is higher when compared to people with low incomes. By the explanation from Mr. Mulyadi (Batangmata, head of village) who said: *"Most if look at community participation in the form of money, most of it comes from people who earn more, or are said to be well-off. "People with low incomes sometimes prefer to contribute their energy for development."(Interview, November 17, 2023).*

Based on information from informants as well as direct observations from researchers, it is known that the causes of differences in participation levels are differences in income levels and the stability of the

community itself. The higher a person's income, the greater the possibility of participation in development, however, if the income is unstable or irregular, it will prevent people from participating. Another reason obtained by the author is that informants rarely or never participate in the form of money (funds) because Usually, the calculation of life is higher when compared with income. The success of the community participating in development requires leadership that can be integrated with the attitudes and character of the local community, because good and directed leadership by the government will clearly encourage the community to obey, and obey the government, and policies in development will be implemented well without feeling any element of coercion. or compulsion.

In carrying out the duties of the head of sub-district and his apparatus, a sub-district office is needed which is a place to carry out management, reporting, recording, and various other activities. The sub-district office as the center of sub-district government activities is a very important means for the sub-district head to carry out his/her function and role as a leader who must be able to set a good example so that various development programs can be created that are beneficial to the community in Marusu Sub-district, Maros Regency. Apart from that, sub-district office equipment is all equipment to ensure the continuity running of all government activities. Overall, at the research location, all equipments at the sub-district office is adequate. This will certainly affect government administration, especially efforts to improve administrative services to the community.

IV. CONCLUSION

Factors that influence community participation in development are factors that originate from within the community itself, for example, the level of education, community income, and the community's self-awareness which is based on the religion that they adhere in Marusu Subdistrict, Maros Regency. Apart from that, it is also caused by factors of originating from the surrounding environment outside the community, including government leadership and their staffs (apparatus).

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