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DESCRIPTIVE OF QUANTITATIVE DATA | SUPPLEMENTARY

The Role of the Village Government in Community Empowerment for Economic Development in Maholo Village, East Lore District, Poso Regency

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Abstract: This study aims to determine the role of the Maholo Village government in empowering the farming community for village economic development. The research method used in this study is a qualitative method. Based on the results of the research, it was found that the role of the Maholo Village government in empowering the farming community is still lacking. This is due to the lack of communication between the community and the village government, the lack of socialization carried out by the government about the empowerment of the farmer community, the uneven provision of assistance for the farming community in Maholo Village, the empowerment carried out for community groups, especially the farmer group, is uneven, so that there are some people who are less enthusiastic about the community empowerment program around 30-40%.

Keywords: Community Empowerment, Farmers, Village Government.

1. INTRODUCTION

The village government is the leading government organization that organizes public services. Therefore, the village government must be able to improve its performance in providing public services in accordance with community expectations. Basically, the purpose of forming a government is to maintain the system. Government is not established to serve itself, but to serve the community. This creates conditions for all community members to develop skills and creativity to achieve progress (Supriatna, 2023). Villages are community initiatives, the authority to regulate and manage government affairs, community interests, based on inherent and/or traditional rights recognized in the government system of a unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia, and should be respected (Endah, 2020).

Community empowerment is a development process where people take the initiative to start a process of social action to improve their own situation and conditions. Community empowerment is an effort to transform the growth of a community into a true power of a society to protect and fight for its values and interests in all areas of life (Saleh, 2023). Community empowerment means improving the skills and independence of the community. Community empowerment involves not only strengthening individuals but also strengthening social institutions. In Maholo Village, where the majority of the population work as farmers, the level of education is low, most of the people only have a junior high school education and some are still not in school. Rural development has an important and strategic meaning in national and regional development because it includes elements of equitable development and results and has a direct impact on the interests of improving the welfare of most people living in rural areas (Putra, 2013). Villages receiving village fund allocations must be able to use the funds received in a targeted manner, taking into account the needs of the village community as a whole and according to the priorities of the programs implemented. Community empowerment is very important for the success of ongoing programs. Maholo Village is one of the



villages in East Lore Sub-district, Poso District, Central Sulawesi Province, which has received Village Funds amounting to Rp. 1,125,000,000,- in 2023.

Based on the results of observations and interviews with Mr. Fredrich as the secretary of Maholo Village, he stated that "most of the Maholo Village funds are realized for community empowerment, especially farmers. The funds are given in order to increase their agricultural yields. Maybe by conducting socialization activities in advance about ways to make the harvest a lot and have good quality. The village funds given for community empowerment, if I recall, are around 20% and almost all budgets are well realized" (Interview on 27 February 2024). Based on the interview above, it was found that the government helped develop the village economy by empowering the farming community using village funds. For this reason, the author is interested in analyzing "The Role of the Government towards Community Empowerment in Maholo Village".

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Foundation

Role is a dynamic aspect of position (status). When a person carries out the rights and responsibilities in accordance with his position, then he is carrying out a role. Each person has a different role that determines what he does for the community and what opportunities the community gives him in carrying out his role (Markus, 2018) Government Regulation 2014 According to No. 113, the village government is the organizer of the affairs and political interests of the local community in the system of government of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. Meanwhile, according to Government Regulation No. 72/2005, the village government is responsible for the administration of government affairs by the village government and village consultative institutions that regulate and manage the interests of the local community based on recognized regional customs of origin. This must be respected in the constitutional system of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia (Atmaja, 2016). The village government consists of the village administration (including the village head and village organizations) and the Village Advisory Board (BPD). The village head is responsible for the administration of the village government based on guidelines established jointly with the Village Advisory Board (BPD).

The term of office for a village head is five years and can be extended for two additional periods (Roza, 2017). The village head can serve for three consecutive or non-consecutive terms. The village mayor is also authorized to establish village regulations approved by the BPD. The village government organization is one type of social organization. Social organization is a systematic social interaction or arrangement through interrelated social activities, the work structure of a community, and even aspects of basic cooperation that direct individual actions towards certain social and economic goals (Desika, 2021). According to Law Number 6 of 2014 Article 1 Paragraph 12, strengthening the village community means increasing the independence and welfare of the community by improving knowledge, attitudes, skills, behavior, skills, awareness and resources through policy making. It is an effort to develop, programs, activities and support will be used that reflect the nature of the problem and priority needs of the community. In reality, community empowerment is not as simple as we make it out to be, whether in terms of community capacity, welfare, culture, structure, or the "political will" of the authorities. Because people have had expertise in areas such as agriculture, industry and navigation since ancient times, their abilities are described at scientific conferences and sometimes even politically as "not to be underestimated". It is true and undeniable that humans have potential, but in an era of globalization characterized by competition, every measure must be compared to another measure Skills and expertise become relative. The practice of community empowerment carried out by many actors is often limited to economic empowerment in the context of poverty alleviation or poverty alleviation. Therefore, community-strengthening activities always take the form of developing productive activities to increase income (income generation) (Rumulus, 2017).

Empowerment means a process that aims to help people towards better living conditions. According to Smarjo, community empowerment is the process of developing opportunities, encouragement/motivation, and the ability of people to access resources, so as to influence and achieve a quality of life of themselves and future communities (Windartini, 2023). In implementing empowerment, it is necessary to go through various stages. According to Wrihatnolo and Dwidjowijoto (2007), there are three stages of empowerment. They are: 2) Capacity Building, The capacity building phase can be achieved when the community has the capacity to receive electricity. This phase is also called capacity building, which includes people, organizations, and value systems. 3) Empowerment, the third stage is the provision of electricity, where the community is given power, empowerment and development opportunities to achieve independence. The distribution of power is adjusted to the quality of each individual's ability. Therefore, community empowerment involves two interrelated groups, namely the community as the empowering party and the actors (local government, village government, non-governmental organizations) who care about empowerment and have an interest in changing social and socio-economic life.

2.2 Prior Research

Reynaldo Ramulus (2017) et al. "The role of village government in community strengthening.

"The results of this study show that the problems in community empowerment are the lack of support provided, the empowerment carried out is not realized by most community groups, especially fishermen, and during the leadership of the current village head, this shows that empowerment is not enough, the strengthening carried out by the former village head is not on target and optimal; the role of the village government is not clear because the duties and roles of village cadres are not directed, and the problems that exist; What happened in Trikora Village was caused by a lack of government knowledge about village community empowerment, a lack of control from the local government, and a lack of guidance from the village government resources and continued lack of human resources. Training (human resources), facilities and infrastructure to develop more modern fishing businesses are still inadequate, and business capital has not been adequately supported. Endang Helmawan (2021) et al "The role of the village government in community empowerment in Tirtawangunan village, Sindangagung sub-district, Kuningan Regency, West Java" The results showed that the Tirtawangunan village government provides a budget for empowerment they have made maximum use of the empowerment program. What are the obstacles in implementing empowerment programs during this pandemic. Although the budget for this empowerment process has actually been reduced, the village government is trying not to have too much influence on this community empowerment effort. The village government works well with the private sector and the community so that all three can benefit from each other.

Muhammad Viki (2022) "The role of the village government in empowering farming communities in Kertamkuti village, Cibitun sub-district, Bekasi province." The results of this study indicate that the Kertamkuti village government has made efforts to empower the village through providing training, facilities, infrastructure, and facilities that support rural needs. According to the author, the role of the Kertamkuti village government, although not yet optimal, is very good. The role of the village government as a regulatory authority refers to Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages and Government Regulation Number 19 of 2013 concerning Protection and Empowerment of Farmers. The role of the village as an enabler is very important, because the village government provides guidance to rural areas through agricultural services, and the village government plans food security programs that provide seeds, livestock, agriculture, and some capital assistance. Although the government has provided facilities such as tractors and waste management infrastructure, there is a lack of attention to capital support to rural areas. As a result, living standards in rural areas have deteriorated and people continue to live in poverty. The role of the village government as an intermediary is considered suboptimal because the village government requires intensive training and capital support for farmers to achieve welfare and living standards for farmers. However, little progress

has been made in strengthening rural areas. As part of the food security program, intensive training is only planned in Muslemban village. In addition, the village government also pays little attention to capital assistance. Angreini Raintun et al. (2021) "The Role of the Village Government in Empowering Farmer Groups in Mobuya Village, Boran Mongondo District, Passi Timur District." The study found that the role of the village government in empowering farmer groups in Mobuya village has not been maximally implemented. This is due to the lack of government attention to farmer organizations and the lack of activity and direct involvement of the government in recognizing the obstacles faced by farmer organizations both in terms of capital, agricultural facilities and infrastructure assistance funds to farmer groups. Yulianis (2019) "Village Government Policy on Community Empowerment in the Bumdes Program". The results showed the role of the village government in community empowerment in the BUMDes program. Pesanggrahan Village, Batu District, Batu City, as a group development process, follows a strategic strengthening program that includes human resource development, group institutional development, strengthening community (private) capital, productive business development and providing appropriate information. This is not entirely effective. Educational institutions are still in the process of transitional improvement. In this case, there will be a shortage of managers dedicated to hydroponic farming, and hydroponic farming will be neglected.

3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHOD

Research In this study the authors used a qualitative research method, which is an approach that views the object of research as a system. The object of study is considered as a unit consisting of elements that are interconnected and describe existing phenomena (Suharsimi Arikunto, 2013). The main data sources were five informants: three village officials and two people working as farmers. Secondary data sources in this study are documents, notes, records, and other documents. The data collection used in this study consisted of interviews with relevant informants, observations made by researchers, as well as written results and other documentation.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Maholo Village is administratively located in the Roa Timur sub-district. It consists of five villages, one of which is Maholo Village. Maholo Village is led by a village head named Meidigus Abu Pak Meydigs who has led the village since 2021 until now continues to carry out his duties successfully while carrying out his duties as Mayor of Maholo Village. In carrying out his duties as village head, he is assisted by the village clerk and other village officials. Different governance problems in Maholo Village can be caused by different supporting factors that cause a person not to show complete loyalty. Examples of problems in the government sector include the inefficiency of village hall activities, inadequate furniture in the village hall, ineffective spatial planning, the management of village officials and BPD, and the lack of community participation in village development, among others. The study conducted by the researcher revealed various problems in community empowerment, especially farmer groups, through the Maholo village government, including the lack of effective cadres. When the researchers collected data through interviews, they included several people they believed should be questioned about the information, including government officials and farmers' organizations. During the interviews, people were quick to respond to the problems that are common in Maholo Village, and people felt that the village government should play a more proactive role and respond more quickly to problems that arise in the village. In interviews conducted by researchers, the response of the village community was very positive, and it is hoped that this research can serve as input and reference material in carrying out government duties and functions. From the results of the research conducted by the researcher, various problems related to the reinforcement carried out were revealed. It was found that the support provided was inadequate, the strengthening carried out was not realized

by most community groups, especially farmer groups, and the strengthening carried out was inadequate. Although strengthening was carried out several times during the tenure of the current village head, the strengthening carried out by the previous village head was not targeted and maximized. Pak Nurudin, a farmer from Maholo Village, said: "But the distribution is uneven. I have not received free fertilizer several times. At that time, I did not know why other farmers would receive this when their financial condition was better than mine, I was only assisted once. In my opinion, the village government is not good at providing assistance. And they don't really give it to people who need it" (Interview, February 27, 2024).

In contrast, Meidigas believes that "community support has been around for a long time" My predecessor also practiced it. We strengthen communities by supporting economically vulnerable farmers. For example, we support organic fertilizers and pesticide-free products. bring agricultural experts directly to the country and conduct outreach activities to help them grow richer and more profitable crops. some people must be stubborn. We occasionally hold networking events, but no participants come. help them and ask them to come to the village hall, but they don't come. do you give free fertilizer and send it to every house? the community is actually also for them, but it comes back to each of us. The village budget that is specifically intended for community empowerment every year is 10%, but what we get from these funds in my opinion does not go as planned because the community does not accept the village government. If there is something different from what you want, please discuss it with me. In fact, when planning the village budget, there is a muslemban or joint deliberation about what the village funds will be used for. many people do not want to come' (Interview, February 27, 2024). Based on the results of the above statement, village budget planning is carried out by holding Muslemban every year. The Muslembang that is held is attended by important community figures, including the heads of RT/RW, village officials, and the community, while some rarely participate in the activities. During the Mulembang activities, the community also did not convey many aspirations and ideas. They only listen. Village development also requires the participation of ideas from the community. This is because development follows the plans and wishes of the community.

The funds used by the government to implement the empowerment program come from the APBDes budgeted and allocated in accordance with the rules in the needs of the empowerment program, even though the budgets given are shrinking or decreasing due to the pandemic period, the village government still maximizes it for community empowerment programs. The following is a table of village fund planning that has been realized in 2023.

Table 1. Types of Work Programs and Total Budget of Maholo Village in 2023

No.	Activity Type	Budget
1	Concrete Road Construction Activity	110.311.000
2	Road slab construction activities	22.802.200
3	Drainage construction activities	20.060.000
4	Street light procurement activities	15.126.000
5	Road pavement construction activities	316.715.000
Total Physical Budget		485.014.200
6	Village Head and Apparatus Training Activities	8.000.000
7	Capacity Building Activities of Community Institutions	7.500.000
8	Community Participation in Planning and Development Activities	800.000
9	Technical Guidance Activities for Village Heads and Village Apparatus	21.000.000
10	Socialization of Village Empowerment Activities	10.000.000
11	BUMDesa Training Activities	800.000
12	Village Profile Compilation Activity	2.300.000
13	Posyandu Management Activities	8.483.600
14	Activities for Organizing Village Meetings	1.500.000
15	Activities for Organizing Village Development Meeting	5.000.000
16	Village competition activities	2.000.000
17	Month of Community Gotong Royong (BBGRM) activities	1.500.000

No.	Activity Type	Budget
18	Environmental and Hygiene Maintenance Activities	7.000.000
19	Village Financial Information System Management Training Activity	3.000.000
20	BUMDes Capital Participation	289.042.200
Empowerment Program Budget		367.925.800
Total Physical Budget + Empowerment Program Budget		852.940.000

Source: Perdes, Maholo Village, 2023

Based on data on village funds obtained by Maholo Village, East Lore Subdistrict, amounting to Rp. 1,125,000,000,- and which were used by Rp. 852,940,000,- or 80.04 percent of the total budgeted village funds. The types of programs run by the Maholo Village government, researchers divide activities in the form of physical and community empowerment in the community empowerment program is divided into two forms, namely the form of community empowerment in social form and community empowerment in economic form.

Based on the table 1, it can be seen that every year the management planning in Maholo Village is still not optimal but always increases every year. The amount of funds each year is also different according to the planning that has been compiled. In 2021, only 34% of the development was realized. The target use of village funds is IDR 1,100,000,000 but only IDR 376,000,000 was realized. This is due to the lack of careful planning and also institutions that are not so complete, causing some development to be hampered. The lack of communication between village government officials and the Maholo Village community also made development not run smoothly. It can be said that development is not good and is classified as a failure. This is also supported by the results of an interview with Mr. Meidigus as the Head of Maholo Village. Mr. Meidigus said:

"In my opinion, the" development of Maholo Village failed in 2021. Development was not carried out according to the plan that had been prepared. Only a few were realized, but due to a lack of communication between agencies, the plan did not materialize. At that time, the community leaders that I expected were not involved in development. Maybe it was because they didn't socialize enough at the time".

By Ministry of Finance regulations, for villages where the balance of village funds from the previous year's RKD is 30% or more, the regent/village head will postpone the distribution of village funds for Phase I of the current fiscal year until the next deadline. The remaining RKD village funds from the previous year. If until August of the current fiscal year, the balance of village funds in the RKD of the previous year is still more than thirty percent (30%), no distribution of village funds will be deferred and become village balancing funds RKUD. The remaining funds cannot be redistributed to the following fiscal year. Therefore, the funds will still be returned and cannot be reused for next year's development. (Interview, February 27, 2024)

The Maholo Village Government in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture provides counseling on cropping systems, seed selection, the use of modern technology such as threshing machines, and improved irrigation. Prior to the guidance from the Department of Agriculture, the Maholo community often experienced problems in pest control and cropping patterns. The advice from the Department of Agriculture may be useful for farmers in Maholo Village. In addition to gaining knowledge about proper planting patterns and selecting good rice in the rainy and dry seasons, farmers in Maholo Village also received good support from Gapoctan. In this case the farmers of Maholo village will get an easy source of capital through the People's Credit Fund managed by UPK Maholo of Maholo village, farmers will easily get capital payments and installments for the purchase of fertilizers and agricultural medicines. the community towards the community empowerment program is around 30-40% of the empowerment formed by this village government, they are enthusiastic and interested in the program and even if it does not produce results, they can and can do our work.

Based on the table above, it shows that some of the funds for community empowerment are allocated to the farming community of Maholo Village. However, in research conducted by researchers, through observations and interviews, various kinds of complaints were found by the community regarding village funds with community empowerment issues. The community in Maholo Village, the farmer group, really wants empowerment programs from the village government, such as during the leadership of the village head in the last period, although it prioritizes the provision of ready-to-use goods, but it is inversely proportional to what the community, especially the farmer group, wants more training - training on how to keep the harvest from failing or how to overcome the harvest during the dry season.

The farming community in Maholo Village considers that the local village government does not pay attention to their fate because it is clear in the laws and regulations that regulate the duties of the village head. In the data collection, it was found that farmer groups and communities really wanted a community empowerment program from the village government. In an interview conducted by researchers with a resident who does not care about whether this empowerment program will be implemented or not, Mr. Yeheskiel as a farmer in Maholo Village briefly explained that

"Whether the empowerment program is running or not, we are still farmers and we continue to farm to support the needs of our families, they are happy because they do not feel what we feel as farmers". (Interview on February 27, 2024)".

Mr. Yeheskiel's statement with the researcher saw that he felt tired and resigned to issues regarding community empowerment. This is due to a lack of communication between village government officials and the community. The lack of role of Mahoro village government in implementing community empowerment of farmer groups is due to the perceived ineffectiveness of village cadres. The researcher argues that the ineffectiveness of village cadres is due to the fact that the main tasks and functions of village cadres are not clear, village cadres do not receive guidance from the local government, and the allowances provided are insufficient. Mr. Genbris, a farmer from Mahoro village, said:

"For example, in our village there are a lot of birds that try to damage our farmland and agricultural land, so we have asked for help, but until now we have not received any response" (Interview, February 27, 2024)".

The interview above suggests that the local government should pay attention to the weaknesses of the Mahoro village apparatus so that the wheels of government can run as expected. As a result of the three factors mentioned above, church office activities are not running well. In particular, this is due to tolerance or processes not working as they should. A person's loyalty to an organization is rewarded when they get what they deserve. Lack of attention or incompetence beyond a person's control can cause him or her to become disloyal to the organization or even lose loyalty to the organization. The solution to the problem of community empowerment must be found by the Mahoro village government, namely through the implementation and implementation of empowerment programs. Because if you use the two ways of solving problems that are often done by the village, namely this and this, then the problem will never be solved. After the village government tried to use the family-based problem-solving method but failed, the village government decided to solve the problem by implementing a program.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research conducted, it can be concluded that:

1. The role of the government is still considered lacking by the community in community empowerment, especially farmers.



2. Based on the results of the research conducted, socialization regarding the empowerment of farming communities is rarely carried out by the village government.
3. Based on the results of interviews with several informants, the assistance provided by the Maholo Village government is not evenly distributed.
4. Lack of communication between the community and Maholo Village government officials makes community empowerment run less smoothly than it should.

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