

Community Empowerment in the Food Security Program (Construction of Farm Business Roads) in Totolan Village, West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency

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Abstract

This study discusses community empowerment in food security programs (case study of farm road construction in Totolan village, West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency), this study aims to describe community empowerment in the construction of farm business roads. To analyze the level of empowerment in the process of planning, development, and utilization of the farm road program in Totolan village, West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency. This type of research is descriptive qualitative. Informants are village heads, village assistants (sub-district assistants), village officials, community leaders, Village Representative Bodies, and communities who work as farmers in Totolan village. Data is obtained through interviews, observation, and documentation. Furthermore, this research was analyzed with data validity techniques using credibility tests, transferability tests, dependability tests, and confirmability tests. The results of this study show that community empowerment in the process of planning the farm road program in Totolan village has been running well. The decision-making process is carried out in a button-up manner. The construction of farm roads has involved local labour and the maintenance scheme is a shared responsibility. The utilization of agricultural road infrastructure has been going well, this is seen in the flow of transportation of agricultural products increasing. The farm road construction program has been carried out and has a positive impact on farmers and road users. Another thing that needs to be done by the government is to build public awareness and mentality, access to capital and institutions in improving the welfare of the community in Totolan village.

Keywords: *empowerment, infrastructure, enterprise.*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini membahas tentang pemberdayaan masyarakat dalam program ketahanan pangan (study kasus pembangunan jalan usaha tani di desa Totolan kecamatan Kakas Barat Kabupaten Minahasa) penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan pemberdayaan masyarakat dalam pembangunan jalan usaha tani. Untuk menganalisis tingkat pemberdayaan dalam proses perencanaan, pembangunan, dan pemanfaatan program jalan usaha tani didesa Totolan Kecamatan Kakas Barat Kabupaten Minahasa. Jenis penelitian ini adalah kualitatif deskriptif. Informan adalah para kepala desa, pendamping desa (pendamping kecamatan), perangkat desa, tokoh masyarakat, Badan Perwakilan Desa, dan Masyarakat yang berprofesi sebagai petani di desa totolan. Data di peroleh melalui wawancara, observasi, dan dokumentasi. Selanjutnya penelitian ini di analisis dengan teknik keabsahan data menggunakan uji kredibilitas, uji transferability, uji dependability, dan uji konfirmability. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa pemberdayaan masyarakat dalam proses perencanaan program jalan usaha tani di desa Totolan telah berjalan dengan baik. Proses pengambilan keputusan dilakukan secara button up. Pembangunan jalan usaha tani telah melibatkan tenaga kerja lokal dan skema peeliharaan menjadi tanggung jawab bersama. Pemanfaatan infrastruktur jalan usaha tani telah berjalan dengan baik hal ini di lihat arus pengangkutan hasil pertanian meningkat. Program pembangunan jalan usaha tani telah di lakukan dan memberikan dampak positif terhadap para petani dan masyarakat pengguna jalan. Hal lain yang perlu di lakukan pemerintah adaah membangun kesadaran dan mental masyarakat, akses permodalan dan kelembagaan dalam peningkatan kesejahteraan masyarakat di desa Totolan.

Kata Kunci: Pemberdayaan, Infrastruktur, Usaha.

INTRODUCTION

Problems and challenges in the development of food security in general concern population growth, increasingly limited natural resources and conversion of agricultural land, limited infrastructure and business facilities in the food sector, tighter market competition with imported products, and a large proportion of poor people.

Per-capita food demand is also increasing driven by rising incomes, health awareness and dietary shifts due to the influence of globalization and various community activities.

In addition, developing rural areas is very important, especially in terms of providing food for the population, providing labor for development, providing raw materials for

industry, and producing commodities for food and export.

Therefore, villages are one of the entry points for the entry of various programs that support the realization of food security at the household level, which will cumulatively support the realization of food security at the district/city, provincial, and national levels.

Development of a food security system which includes an availability subsystem, distribution subsystem, and consumption subsystem by utilizing local resources in a sustainable manner.

These efforts are carried out through the process of empowering communities to recognize their potential and abilities, find alternative opportunities and solve problems and be able to make decisions to utilize natural resources efficiently and sustainably so as to achieve independence. The Food Security Program is implemented for 4 (four) consecutive stages through 4 stages of implementation, namely: Preparation, growth, development and independence stages. Each stage contains various activities with the implementation time of each stage is for one year. Activities are focused on food insecure areas by implementing various community empowerment models in realizing food security that already exist at the village level by involving all community participation. Community empowerment is carried out by placing assistance personnel in each implementing village for four consecutive years starting from the stages of preparation, growth, development and independence.

West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency has great potential in the agricultural sector as one of the main pillars in building food security. One of the strategic steps to increase agricultural productivity is through community empowerment through programs that focus on developing agricultural infrastructure. Farm road infrastructure has a crucial role in supporting agricultural activities and improving community welfare.

The existence of agricultural business roads not only facilitates the transportation of agricultural products to and from the market, but also can open up new opportunities for diversification of agricultural businesses and

economic empowerment of local communities. Farm Business Road that has been in the Food Security Program in Totolan Village, West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency, which is one of the programs budgeted in the Village Fund for fiscal year 2022.

In the APBDes structure, it has been budgeted at Rp135,739,700.00, in the construction of a farm road with a width of 3 meters and a length of 280 meters. Community empowerment in the farm road program is expected to have an impact on improving the economy of the people of Totolan Village.

In accordance with the focus of the problem above, the researcher formulated several problems, namely: How is the planning process for the construction of agricultural business roads in Totolan Village, West Kakas District, in accordance with the needs of the community? How is the realization of the implementation of the agricultural road weaving program in Totolan Village, West Kakas District?

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach, namely research strategies and techniques used to understand society, problems or symptoms in society by collecting as many in-depth facts as possible. Narrative description This research is a field research (field research), by using qualitative analysis. Therefore, the data collected in this study is in the form of information in the form of information and not in the form of numbers.

Qualitative analysis is considered more appropriate in this study, because this analysis is expected to be more likely to develop this research in order to gain a deep understanding. In accordance with its purpose, qualitative research is aimed at understanding social phenomena from the perspective or perspective of participants.

Participants are people who are interviewed, observed, asked to provide data, opinions, thoughts, and perceptions. Understanding is gained through the analysis of the various interests of the participants, and through the deciphering of the "participant's meaning" about situations and events. The meaning of

participants includes the feelings, beliefs, ideas, thoughts, and activities of the participants.

Some qualitative research is directed at more than just understanding phenomena but also developing theories. Qualitative research examines participants' perspectives with multi-strategy, interactive strategies, such as direct observation, participatory observation, in-depth interviews, documents, complementary techniques such as photos, recordings, and others. In revealing all these phenomena and natural meanings, researchers use descriptive methods. This is in accordance with what Lexy J. Moleong (2008) stated that most qualitative research is very rich and loaded with descriptions. Researchers want to understand the context and conduct a holistic analysis, of course, it needs to be described.

In addition, researchers use data collection procedures through observation or observation which is a technique or method carried out by observing ongoing activities. This technique is done by the author because the focus of the author's research is on character building efforts, where this activity is related to continuous human behavior. Therefore, it is necessary to make in-depth observation of these activities. Before making observations, the author first designed a research instrument on observation guidelines so that the author could make observations in a planned and systematic manner.

Another is conducting interviews, Esterberg in Sugiyono defines, an interview is a meeting of two people to exchange information and ideas through questions and answers, so that meaning can be constructed in one particular topic.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Totolan Village is one of the villages where most of the population manages agricultural land. Totolan Village is administratively included in the West Kakas District, Minahasa Regency, North Sulawesi Province.

Food Security Program

Food availability is one measure used to see an area has reached a level of food security. Food availability is also one of the important aspects in realizing food security at the regional level than before. Food must be fulfilled in a period of time and this aspect is very strategic in order to meet

the food needs of the population. The availability of food is very influential on the welfare of the community, because if the availability of food is fulfilled then a person can achieve a decent life in terms of sufficient amount of food, physical access, and economic access in fulfilling food as a staple.

Food availability according to the ideology of capitalism is the availability of food in sufficient quantities safe and nutritious for everyone in a country whether it comes from its own production, imports, food reserves or food aid. Food availability in this case is more often seen in macro terms. If the stock is adequate compared to the level of macro needs, food availability is considered sufficient. Food as the most basic element of human life needs has always been the subject of discussion and debate that is still flowing.

To ensure that food is distributed evenly, distribution activities are carried out. Food Distribution is the activity of distributing food supply from one place to another evenly so that people's needs for food can be met. The process of distributing food can be done from the producer to the consumer.

In fulfilling foodstuffs, the people of Totolan Village distribute supplies from the harvest of the farming community itself on the part of the harvest reservoir to be sold. Food distribution is one of the subsystems of food security whose role is very strategic, if it cannot be carried out properly and smoothly, the food needed by the community will not be fulfilled. This food distribution is expected to be carried out effectively, efficiently and evenly in every location where food transactions take place for community needs. This disruption in food distribution has an impact on food scarcity and increases in food prices and affects the low access to food of the community because the purchasing power of food decreases.

Efforts to realize welfare and distribution justice cannot rest on market mechanisms alone.

Market mechanisms based on a price system on the basis of the laws of demand and supply cannot properly solve the provision of public goods, externalities, fairness, equitable distribution of income and wealth. The role of government is also necessary, especially if the

market is unable to create a fair distribution and there are inhibiting factors for the creation of efficient market mechanisms.

The government has the authority to remove such barriers due to the incompetence or lack of awareness of the public. As well as the problem of hoarding that is rife by entrepreneurs, monopolies and oligopolies of large entrepreneurs in certain commodities, asymmetric information, disconnection of distribution channels by blocking goods from entering the market, as well as other ways that can hinder market mechanisms.

Therefore, the government is required in addition to intervening to ensure the creation of conditions that support the market mechanism to run fairly also encourage the birth of morality decorated by honesty, openness and justice to produce competition in good so as to ultimately give birth to a fair distribution mechanism for the wider community, not a bribery mechanism and certain interests close to the government (Noor, 2012).

Planning of Farm Road Program in Totolan Village, West Kakas District

Village funds in 2022 of IDR 68 trillion, one of which is allocated for food and animal security of at least 20 percent, need to be optimized. With mature potential mapping, it is expected to create new jobs and add value to agricultural products.

Director of Facilitation of Village Fund Utilization of the Directorate General (Directorate General) of Village and Rural Development at the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration (PDRT) Luthfy Latief, said, from 2015 to 2022, the government has disbursed village funds of IDR 468 trillion. The amount increased from Rp 20.67 trillion in 2015 to Rp 72 trillion in 2021. As for 2022, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the allocation of village funds has decreased to IDR 68 trillion. This number is for 74,961 villages in Indonesia.

In Article 5 of Presidential Regulation Number 104 of 2021 concerning Details of the 2022 State Budget, it is stated that village funds are used, among others, for food and animal security programs, at least 20 percent. The social protection program is in the form of village cash transfers of at least 40 percent and funding

support for handling Covid-19 of at least 8 percent. Regarding the utilization of 20% of Village Funds for food security programs. This is in accordance with Presidential Regulation (Perpres) No.104/2021 concerning Details of the State Budget. Where food security is a condition of meeting food needs for households which is reflected in the availability of sufficient food, both in quantity and quality, safe, equitable and affordable.

Community participation is one of the factors that influence the success of development programs and rural community development. Community participation not only involves the community in decision-making in each program, but the community is also involved in identifying problems and potentials that exist in the community. Without community participation in every activity, development will not be carried out properly. Whatever the form of participation, participation aims to improve the ability of everyone directly or indirectly involved in a development by involving them in decision-making and other activities.

Planning has a very important role to see how community participation in village financial management. The level of community participation in general can be seen from the participation of the community who consciously and voluntarily participate in various forms ranging from planning to participation in various things in the village. The form of community contribution is not only in the form of energy but can also be a thought. Community involvement in this regard is one of the important keys in the success of development.

Community participation in village financial management in Totolan Village can be shown in various forms of participation levels, one of which is participating in planning activities which include development planning deliberations at the environmental level (jaga) and development planning deliberations at the village level.

The process of community participation in the planning stage in Totolan Village starts from the lowest stage, namely development planning deliberations at the environmental level (jaga) then development planning deliberations at the village level. Musrenbangdus is a deliberation

carried out at the environmental level (jaga) which is attended by all elements of the community of the environmental area (jaga). In the deliberation, the community will discuss various fields and sectors in each village to find a program of activities to be formulated. The results of the program formulated in the Musrenbangdus will be discussed at Musrenbangdes to prioritize which programs are most needed by the community in accordance with the existing budget. As explained by Mr. Herbi Tairas as the Head of Totolan Village said that:

"The process of community participation in planning, yes, we held musrenbang. Starting from Musrenbang at the neighborhood level (guard) then musrenbang at the village level. That's what our community invites. So that's where the participation is, putting forward proposals, giving opinions. Then the proposal was summarized and later determined to be RKPDes and APBDDes. Well, in that village, not all community proposals can be realized. We will take the priority scale later." The results of an interview with Mr. Herbi Tairas as the Head of Totolan Village, August 1, 2023.

Based on the explanation stated above, it can be seen that the form of community participation at the planning stage in Totolan Village is to participate in formulating programs and providing ideas, opinions and ideas at ongoing deliberations. So that the deliberations can produce good village program planning outputs and in accordance with the needs of the village and the community itself

In the context of planning the construction of agricultural business roads in Totolan Village, West Kakas District, it is carried out based on levels, namely the implementation of MUSDES (Village Deliberation) which makes all elements of the community in the village. The results of the Village Deliberation will be brought in the Village Development Planning Deliberation (Musrembang) to set priorities in village development. The matters that are priorities for village development will become budget programs in the current year contained in the APBDDes (village revenue and expenditure budget).

Law Number 6 of 2014 on villages is the main legal basis in regulating village deliberations in Indonesia. This law emphasizes the importance of village deliberations as a means of gathering aspirations and making joint decisions in village development.

The process of planning farm roads has been carried out with steps where the results of proposals from the community are carried out on the basis of identifying agricultural problems. Then conduct a situation analysis to formulate what is the will of the community. Planning that has been done by considering priority programs. In the context of farm roads in Totolan village, agricultural roads are indeed a priority for local communities in order to facilitate access for farmers in supporting and processing agricultural products. Most food security programs are prioritized by villages.

Implementation of Farm Road Construction

The implementation of development is the implementation of each series related to program planning contained in the RPJMDes and RKPDes. When the RPJMDes and RKPDes documents are completed, each village must have an APBDDes, then after the APBDDes is ratified, the implementation of village development will go through several stages of implementation, namely:

- (1) Preparation of RAB;
- (2) Procurement of Goods and Services;
- (3) Filing of SPP;
- (4) Payment;
- (5) Work on the Activity Assistant Cash Book.

The stages of implementing the development program begin with the preparation of the RAB. Before the preparation of the RAB, it is necessary to ensure that standard data on the prices of goods and services needed in development activities are available. After the RAB is ratified, the Village Head and the Activity Implementation Team process the procurement of goods and services to provide goods/services in accordance with the needs of an activity to be carried out. Furthermore, the Head of Section as the Activity Implementation Coordinator submits a Payment Request Letter (SPP) in accordance with applicable procedures. Furthermore, the Head of Section/Activity Executive is responsible for expenditure actions that cause the burden on the

activity expenditure budget by using the Activity Assistant Cash Book as an accountability for the implementation of activities in the village of Totolan Village, according to the explanation of the Head of Finance in an interview on August 25, 2023, the implementation of development is carried out based on the Totolan Village Government Work Plan (RKPDes) document for fiscal year 2022 approved by the Consultative Body Village (BPD) and authorized by the Head of Totolan Village.

The implementation of this development was handed over by the Totolan Village Government to the Activity Implementation Team (TPK). The development implementation stage begins with socialization meetings regarding village work programs, then the community attends socialization activities followed by determining groups as executions in the implementation of development. At this stage of development, the pattern of community participation is reflected in the community's participation in implementing development programs implemented by the Totolan Village Government.

Totolan Village based on the results of the research conducted, the author found that the form of easy access to budget documents in Totolan Village can be done through financial data at the village office. This was explained by the Head of Totolan Village in an interview, stating that in general, budget documents can be accessed by the community through financial report data at the village office. Furthermore, explained by the Head of Totolan Village, budget documents can also be accessed by the community through the provision of budget documents at every meeting or socialization of development implementation, the provision of this document is a step by the Totolan Village Government to make it easier for people who cannot access budget documents.

In the evaluation process, the sub-district government is involved in this process. West Kakas Sub-district Head Mrs. Jeane Sumendap when interviewed:

"In the framework of the budget evaluation process, the sub-district intensively conducts monev (Monitoring and Evaluation) of infrastructure facilities and infrastructure

built using the village budget every 4 months. This Monev is carried out to ensure that the implementation of the program has been carried out in accordance with what has been planned."

Based on the information explained by the speakers above, it can be concluded that in the principle of providing easily accessible documents, the Totolan Village Government has carried out this principle through the village budget report provided

CONCLUSION

From the results of the research that has been done, several conclusions are drawn as follows:

1. The Farm Road Program programmed by Totolan village, West Kakas District, has been implemented. The program planning process has been carried out in a button-up manner involving the local community. The planning process starts from the village deliberation stage to the deliberation on the determination of Village Development planning or Musrebangdes. However, in planning food security programs in addition to farm roads, the community also needs agricultural facilities and hopes that the next food security program can be in the form of agriculture or animal husbandry.
2. The implementation of the Farm Business Road Program has involved elements of the local community in terms of the use of labor and supervision of implementation is carried out by the Village Representative Body

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