

Research article

The Importance of Stakeholders' Roles in Village Resource Management

Prawinda Putri Anzari*, Seli Septiana Pratiwi, Desy Santi Rozakiyah

Sociology, State University of Malang, East Java, Indonesia

Abstract.

If managed and empowered properly, natural wealth and resources in the village can support the progress and development of the village. Village resources, both natural resources and human resources, are important assets to be managed and maximized for the village's gain. The village government plays an important role in management and must have a supportive strategy to achieve its goals. This research aimed to determine the resources owned by Pecuk Village in Tulungagung and what procedures have been carried out by the village government to maximize the potential of these village resources. Descriptive qualitative methods were used. The results indicated that Pecuk Village is one of the villages where the BUMDes (village-owned enterprises) do not work because there is no explicit coordination between village leaders and the community. Meanwhile, the community needs BUMDes to assist them in carrying out economic activities. Such assistance includes: fertilizers, socialization of farmers, savings and loans assistance, and entrepreneurship training. The village government must map out the natural potential of resources and mobilize the community in the village to reactivate BUMDes and carry out activities according to community needs.

Keywords: village-owned enterprises, village resources, village officials, Tulungagung

Corresponding Author: Prawinda Putri Anzari; email: prawinda.anzari.fis@um.ac.id

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1. Introduction

The condition of the area affects the activities carried out by the community, including the livelihoods they do. This condition impacts the pattern of thinking, knowledge, and expertise to process natural resources owned by the village. Livelihoods will be considered sustainable if individuals or households can maintain or improve their abilities to the next generation [1]. The majority of crops produced are rice, sugar cane, corn or other primary commodities. Other jobs that the villagers commonly do are raising cows, goats, and chickens. The farming results were sold without going through a processing process so that the selling price obtained by farmers is low.

This situation also occurs in Pecuk Village, Pakel District, Tulungagung Regency, where the majority of the people are rice farmers. Farm products are sold directly without going through a processing process so that the prices of commodities sold are

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low [2]. In addition to being farmers, the community also has a livelihood as farmers. The condition of the area close to limestone mountains affects the variety of work carried out by the people of Pecuk Village. Some of them choose as stone crushers in stone processing plants. However, work as farmers, breeders, and stone crushers cannot improve the economic condition of the local community. People who choose to work as stone crushers are not placed in influential positions such as factory or company managers but are placed as day laborers.

Limited knowledge and expertise in the formal sector is the primary reason for placing people in the informal employment sector. Based on the criteria of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Cooperatives and the Central Bureau of Statistics, the informal sector workers are those who work alone without the help of others, work with the use of non-permanent workers, and work with the help of their families to improve household welfare [3]. In fact, the agricultural products owned by the village in the form of agricultural products, livestock products, and industrial products have not been able to prosper the lives of the people of Pecuk Village. Overcoming this requires an active role from the local village government to regulate natural resource management in favor of human resource welfare. Moreover, with regional autonomy, village officials have the authority to manage and utilize existing natural resources [4]. Village officials can develop empowerment programs to provide community expertise in collecting and processing natural resource products that are more efficient, including developing the small and medium business sector that can be initiated from the ideas of the community in processing agricultural products.

The government also needs to seek and pay attention to the capital issued by the community when starting a natural resource processing business. The community needs knowledge of finance to stabilize the business being carried out. Other capital that can be provided is procurement in the form of technology that facilitates and accelerates the processing of natural resources. Thus, in this article, we will describe how to process agricultural products in Pecuk Village, and the role played by BUMDes (Village-Owned Enterprises) to prosper the community based on the state of the area it has.

2. Method

This research is a descriptive study using a qualitative approach and is limited to two research focuses, namely: (a) Seeing the potential of resources in Pecuk Village, and (b) the role of village officials in increasing the value of the village community's business. The location of this research is in Tulungagung Regency, Pakel District, Pecuk Village.

This study uses primary and secondary data sources as references in finding information related to the research focus, which can be through observations, in-depth interviews, and documentation techniques. Furthermore, the data that has been collected from the field is then processed and analyzed using interactive model data analysis according to the method proposed by [5], namely through the stages of data collection, data condensation, data presentation,

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Agricultural Products and Livelihoods of the Pecuk Village Community

Pecuk Village is a village with a vast expanse of rice fields so that most of the residents have a livelihood as farmers. Rice is one of the mainstay crops in Tulungagung Regency, not least in Pecuk Village. Rice is one of the commodities that have bright prospects to increase the income of farmers. It can motivate farmers to develop further and improve their production, hoping that the business will obtain high sales results to meet their needs at harvest time.

To obtain income that satisfies farmers, Pecuk Village farmers must be careful in the rice planting process, starting from land preparation, planting, weeding, harvesting, to drying. In Pecuk Village, the rice fields' community cannot yet carry out the post-harvest process, so further processing of rice is left to the second party as the rice distributor. Besides rice, Pecuk Village also has other crops, namely corn. Corn that farmers have harvested is directly distributed and sold to collectors without any further processing. This is because the community has limitations regarding their knowledge in managing agricultural products.

For the people of Pecuk Village who do not have rice fields or fields, they seek a livelihood as breeders, entrepreneurs, employees or civil servants to work as stone crushers. Tulungagung is a marble-producing city whose products have penetrated the world market [6]. The District of Campurdarat is the largest marble management area in East Java. In Pecuk Village, marble crafts are not the main livelihood, but what is interesting in Pecuk Village is a foreign-owned marble tile factory where many villagers employ Pecuk villagers as stone crushers. Many residents work as daily laborers to break stones because they do not own rice fields, do not get capital from the village to start a business, and cannot upgrade their skills because there is no training.

3.2. The Important Role of BUMDes in Improving Earth Yield

The problem of development that has been widely discussed lately is the problem of economic growth. Economic development is also synonymous with the progress of a village. In fact, the high economic level of a village does not necessarily reflect the progress of a village as a whole. Economic potential, in this case, is village resources that can be used to improve the community's economy. In the research results above, it has been explained that the community does not have maximum support from village officials to BUMDes to manage their crops. In fact, the existence of BUMDes in villages has the primary goal of increasing original village income to improve the capacity of village governments in administering governance and development and community services. Develop economic potential in rural areas to encourage rural communities' development and economic capacity as a whole and create jobs [7]. BUMDes must be built and run based on the needs and potential of the village so that resources can be managed optimally and at the same time empower the village community [8].

In 2020, the Regent of Tulungagung Regency had implemented facilities for the establishment of BUMDes in 257 villages which are divided into 41 (forty-one) advanced categories, 85 (eighty-five) developing BUMDes, and 131 (one hundred and thirty-one) beginner BUMDes. [9]. The development of BUMDes in Tulungagung Regency itself was emphasized by the Regent of Tulungagung running tiered communication media from the Provincial Government, Regency Government, Village Governments and BUMDes actors as means of coordination, marketing facilities, and expansion of business networks. With the establishment of BUMDes in every village in the Tulungagung Regency, it is hoped that villages will be able to prioritize their abilities as subjects of governance and village development [10].

3.3. The Problems of Pecuk Village BUMDes

Of the hundreds of BUMDes in Tulungagung Regency, many BUMDes have become successful. Still, several BUMDes are vacuum, so they need to analyze strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats [11]. One of the BUMDes that is not running according to its function and purpose is the BUMDes in Pecuk Village, Pakel District. There are two main reasons why BUMDes in Pecuk Village cannot run well. First, there is no precise coordination. Although the Regent of Tulungagung has directed a structural communication system, there are still practices that deviate from the communication structure. The Pecuk Village Head stated that he had never received any direction or

financial assistance to develop BUMDes in his village. The Pecuk Village Head also does not have the initiative to promote BUMDes independently without the direction of the above officials. Meanwhile, information obtained from the village community states that there has never been a special board that manages BUMDes. In addition to village officials, the people who can be relied on in managing BUMDes are young. Unfortunately, most of the youth in Pecuk Village receive their education in other cities. In contrast, youth who live in the village are more interested in drinking, partying, and spending time hanging out.

The second cause is the provision of assistance that is not right on target. The only aid that BUMDes has ever provided to village communities is equipment such as a satay burner. Unfortunately, this tool is not handed over to residents who can maximize the tool, but is given to the village head's family. So that the satay burner is not used at all. If given on target, this tool will increase the optimization of agricultural produce in Pecuk Village.

Overall, Pecuk Village is indeed very lagging behind compared to other BUMDes in Tulungagung Regency. Examples are BUMDes Karya Nyata in Kebo Ireng Village which can facilitate the community in terms of savings and loans, promote tourism, and support new businesses [7]. Another example is the BUMDes Wahana Lestari in Babadan Village [12], a special program to increase the welfare of Poor Households (Rumah Tangga Miskin) by providing business capital loans, motorcycle loans, and business units. These two BUMDes are examples of BUMDes that have been able to stand independently and have not received much intervention from other stakeholders. These two BUMDes run according to the community's needs and the potential that exists in their area. Using a strategy like this,

The role of BUMDes must look at the primary needs of the community from the village. The people of Pecuk Village are mostly farming and raising livestock. One of the things that Pecuk Village farmers need is fertilizer subsidies from stakeholders, sprayers, dryers, and marketing training. Meanwhile, people who raise livestock need capital loans to start a business to buy cattle and goat seeds. Ownership of rice fields and land in Pecuk Village adheres to the hereditary system, so for people who do not inherit rice fields, of course, they will not be able to farm. Meanwhile, people who do not farm or raise livestock create home industries such as making chips, convection businesses, and receiving cake orders. This is why the role of BUMDes is really needed to provide entrepreneurship training and capital assistance.

The death of BUMDes in Pecuk Village certainly has an impact on the villagers. The effect that is felt the most is that people cannot increase crop yields with food

TABLE 1: Pecuk Village Community Needs in Economic Improvement.

Citizens' Livelihoods	Produce Products	The Need To Improve Business Results
Farming	Rice, corn	Availability of fertilizers, sprayers, processing training
raising	Goat, cow, duck, rabbit, chicken	Business capital, heavy equipment
Businessman	Convention, chips, catering	Working capital, training

innovation and technology. Another effect is that residents who do not own livestock or rice fields find it difficult to expand their business and entrepreneurial activities because there is no support such as providing capital or training from BUMDes. This condition is exacerbated by the lack of coordination provided by village officials.

BUMDes was established on the initiative of the community and is based on the potential that can be developed using local resources, and there is market demand [13]. In other words, the running of BUMDes is not just carrying out instructions that come from the provincial and district governments. If that is the case, then BUMDes cannot run like the conditions in Pecuk Village. The village government needs to map out what the residents need to improve their economic welfare through optimizing crops. In addition, village community entrepreneurship can run well if there is the application of village democracy to form and manage BUMDes [14].

4. Conclusion

The existence of BUMDes in the village has an impact not only on the community but also on the village government in creating jobs and improving village welfare. Social mapping and good organizational communication are needed so that BUMDes can run according to the community's needs and the produce of a village so that BUMDes does not just run based on instructions from local officials. Village officials must put aside personal interests and uphold open access to information in the management of agricultural products and financial support and entrepreneurship training to the community. Pecuk Village is a small village that has enough potential for agricultural products but cannot be processed optimally. This is what makes it difficult for some people to meet their daily needs, especially for people who do not own rice fields, livestock and do not have the status of employees. Therefore, it is necessary to revitalize and improve the structure of the village apparatus so that BUMDes can return to work and help the economy in Pecuk Village.

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