



The Existence of Community Empowerment Institutions (LPM) in the Development Plan

Widya Kurniati Mohi¹, Sri Lestari Gintulangi¹, Alwin Abdullah¹

¹Muhammadiyah University of Gorontalo, Indonesia

*Corresponding Author: Widya Kurniati Mohi

Email: widyakurniati@umgo.ac.id



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Abstract

This study aims to describe the existence of community empowerment institutions in absorbing community proposals in development plans. This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach to obtain a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the existence of community empowerment institutions in absorbing community proposals for development plans in Molokode U Village, Sipatanah District, Gorontalo City. The data collection techniques in this study used observation, interviews and documentation. The results of this study show that the existence of LPM in Molokode U Village as a Facilitator, Mediator, Motivator, Dynamist for development has been running as it should, although LPM has shown its existence in every planning activity, in practice it is still shrouded in a number of problems so that the institution in carrying out its duties is not optimal.

Introduction

In the last few decades, Community Empowerment Institutions (LPM) are facing many waves of demands that the development plans made must be "aspirational-accommodative" to the needs and potentials of local communities. The magnitude of the demands as a logical consequence of the reform era that requires institutions to continue to make changes, pressures and demands that come from various parties, is caused by the weakness of community empowerment institutions in managing and bridging community proposals to be accommodated in the process of preparing development plans at the village level.

The increasing demand is because the existence of the Community Empowerment Institution (LPM) with its functions and duties as an empowerment institution has not been able to have a positive impact on the welfare of the community. Based on this, Muhtar (2017) said that the existence of community institutions in principle as community agents in bridging, developing and improving community proposals and is one of the most important aspects of control as a process of connecting each step and development activity in order to respond to community demands.

Empowerment institutions become a means of connecting by the community in community-based development so that institutions must be able to show their performance on the results of their work, as explained by Theresia (2015) that community-oriented development institutions in their role must be able to become facilitators, mediators, motivators and dynamists. for development. So to show the existence of community empowerment institutions must be able to strengthen their capacity in terms of management. The concept put forward in practice is not simple, in fact the problems that are often faced by community empowerment institutions through their roles as facilitators, mediators, motivators and dynamists have not been implemented properly in encouraging community proposals to be absorbed in

development plans. low compatibility between community proposals and the quality of the resulting plans.

Normatively, based on the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 18 of 2018, it clearly shows that the Community Empowerment Institution (LPM) is one of the social institutions that has an important role in development in the kelurahan, both in accommodating and distributing community proposals for development in the kelurahan. Permendagri no 18 of 2018 has stated that the duties and functions of the LPM are in carrying out their role in every aspect of empowerment activities and assisting village heads in absorbing community aspirations related to development planning. It's just that there is a lack of interconnectivity between LPM, the government, and other stakeholders in building synergy, so that this condition places LPM only as a collector of all proposals or activities carried out by LPM only to fulfill technical duties as a community empowerment institution.

Related to existence, it describes various aspects of intangible institutions as the focus of stakeholder attention, institutions that attract people, and culture that directs the behavior of actors. The ability possessed is an organizational identity, shows the pattern of handling human resources, and is the main factor that determines the implementation of the institution's strategy in development. According to Efendhi (2016), the structure of the institution and the system of cooperative relations that are built are the main components for the competence of the institution. For empowerment institutions to become a means of connecting by the community in community-based development so that to achieve its existence the institution must be able to show its performance on the results of work, as explained by Theresa (2015) which consists of four dimensions of the role, namely (1) empowerment institutions as facilitators, (2) community empowerment institutions as mediators, (3) community empowerment institutions as motivators and (4) community empowerment institutions as dynamists for development in the Kelurahan.

Research related to the existence of LPM in the development plan has had previous research. Like the research conducted by Ismayanti (2017) with the title perception of community leaders on the existence of community empowerment institutions. Where the results of this study indicate that the existence of the institution has not had an impact on community services, the role played by the institution in providing guidance, independence, actualization of needs and involvement of the institution in every aspect of empowerment activities is not working properly so that the perception of community leaders towards LPM is not good.

In addition, research conducted by Kuntjorowati (2018), entitled The existence of social welfare institutions in empowerment. Where from the research results obtained, namely the existence of the institution will appear if it is proven by the results of work, able to apply community requests, able to analyze community needs, and can apply knowledge and mastery of technology owned, it's just that in practice this has not been fulfilled.

This research is slightly different from the research conducted by the two researchers above, namely where the focus of the studies carried out regarding the existence of community empowerment institutions tends to focus on the ability of LPMs to manage, serve, and bridge community proposals so that they can be absorbed in development plans, while previous research focused on the demands of the community. from the internal role of the institution to show the performance of its functions and duties in every service carried out

From the description of the background above, it can be stated that the focus of the problem in this study is How the Existence of Empowerment Institutions in absorbing community proposals in the Molokode U village, Sipatanah sub-district, Gorontalo City. Based on the description of the background and the focus of the problem above, the purpose of the study is

to determine the existence of community empowerment institutions in absorbing community proposals in the Molokode U Village, Sipatana District, Gorontalo City.

Methods

This research uses a qualitative research type with a descriptive approach. Qualitative descriptive analysis, the research intends to obtain a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the existence of community empowerment institutions in absorbing community proposals for development programs in the Molokode U sub-district, Gorontalo City. The informants who will be interviewed related to this research are the head of the Molokode U village, the village apparatus, the head of the LPM, the LPM administrator, five members of the community.

Data collection techniques in qualitative research are: interviews, observation, and documentation. The data analysis technique used in this study is qualitative data analysis with an interactive model of analysis as developed by Miles et al. (2014) with the following procedures: data collection, data condensation, data presentation, conclusion drawing

Results and Discussion

Molotipe U is one of the villages in the Sipatanah sub-district, Gorontalo City, Gorontalo Province, Indonesia. Prior to the division in the Sipatanah sub-district, previously this sub-district was the North City sub-district. In every development activity, the Molokode U Village always utilizes existing community institutions, in assisting the implementation of the function of the administration of the village government, both in the implementation of urban development, village community development, and village community empowerment. One of the institutions that is relied on in increasing community participation in planning, implementing, controlling development, and increasing community capacity is the Community Empowerment Institute.

The Community Empowerment Institution as a working partner of the Molokode U Village government in accommodating and realizing the aspirations of the democratic needs of the community in the field of development. LPM as a forum formed on the initiative of the community to assist the sub-district government in planning aspects, controlling the community and preparing participatory development plans, as well as mobilizing community self-help work. LPM is an element of society that has a shared responsibility with the government in community empowerment. The purpose of LPM is to improve the welfare of the community, and aims to enable and empower the community by trying to create a participatory society.

Village LPM is a forum for the active role of the community in development management, therefore we must strengthen its existence, the existence of the institution in the midst of the community as a bridge between the community and the government, is useful for knowing and understanding the problems and aspirations that develop in the community which in turn can absorb all proposals. community that develops objectively as well as for the preparation of plans, implementation, preservation and development of development results in a participatory manner.

The existence of community empowerment institutions in absorbing community proposals in the Molokode U area, in a theoretical perspective Empowerment institutions become a means of connecting by the community in community-based development so that to achieve its existence the institution must be able to show its performance on the results of work, as conveyed by Theresia (2015) which consists of of the four dimensions of the role, namely (1) empowerment institutions as facilitators, (2) community empowerment institutions as

mediators, (3) community empowerment institutions as motivators and (4) community empowerment institutions as dynamists, these four dimensions are used in the development management process that community based. To discuss the results of in-depth research related to community participation in the development program of determining program priorities, an analysis was carried out with other supporting theories, namely as stated by Muhtar (2017) related to the existence of institutions, which is a terminology that characterizes the ability of institutions to achieve the goals set efficiently, effective, and accountable. In absorbing the community's proposals seen from its function as a Facilitator, Mediator, Motivator, and Dynamizer for development as described below.

Community Empowerment Institutions as Facilitators

LPM as a facilitator in the kelurahan is to facilitate all community activities regarding development programs that are planned later to be implemented. As a facilitator for LPM, apart from proposing development, he also provides assistance to RT and RW equipment in the kelurahan. The role of LPM in Kelurahan Molokode U is indeed seen as a facilitator in efforts to develop development plans, this is indicated by the LPM program in conducting meeting activities between village officials representing community members and the sub-district government. Therefore, urban village community empowerment institutions that carry out initiatives to seek development and efforts to find solutions to problems that exist in Molokode U Village. In order to become good facilitators, they must be able to encourage the community to actively participate in development planning.

With regard to the data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation in the field, it was concluded that the existence of the Community Empowerment Institution as a Facilitator was not visible, this could be seen from the involvement of the community in determining the priority of the proposed program held by LPM which was less than optimal, the community only attended and just listen but do not comment much. People also think that LPM cannot do anything about the program that will be planned.

The role of the community empowerment institution, which is referred to as a facilitator in the Kelurahan, is that LPM itself facilitates all community activities related to the LPM development program. Apart from being a facilitator in community development programs, LPM itself is a companion to village apparatus such as RT and RW. In the context of development as an empowerment institution, it must be able to facilitate the various needs and desires of the community in accordance with the development mechanism that has been determined as according to Berman (2017), namely an effort to unite the needs of the community with the wishes of the government in accordance with the principle of equality, the principle of dialogical deliberation, the principle of partisanship, the principle of anti-domination, and the principle of anti-discrimination. This is something that until now has rarely been paid attention to by representatives and organizers of the musrenbang, so that there is no dialogue and participation in accordance with the principles of the Musrenbang.

Community Empowerment Institutions as Mediator

LPM as a mediator in development is tasked with disseminating the results of the proposed development plans that have been determined and used as medium-term development plans and integrated village development plans to all elements of society. LPM Molokode U socializes the results of the design that will be proposed in the development deliberation through outreach to the homes of residents of the Kelurahan and also through the form of meeting invitations.

Referring to the results of interviews, observations, and documentation in the field that the existence of LPM as a Mediator has appeared, but has not yet had an impact on the community at large, this can be seen from the participation of the people who are only active people and those who care about sustainable development. involved in activities carried out by LPM, many people are less concerned with the program, people provide information only at meetings, this happens because of the lack of socialization of LPM to the community.

The Village Community Empowerment Institution (LPM) which is considered a mediator in development is the LPM itself which has the task of disseminating some of the results of the development plan that has been determined and will be used as medium-term development to the community. For the LPM, Molokode U Village itself disseminates the development plan during meetings which will take a few minutes to socialize the development programs. The institution in carrying out a proposed mediator is by accepting and managing it until it becomes a program of activities. The form of acceptance of community aspirations that is currently being carried out by LPM is a technical requirement that must be met, in practice the acceptance of aspirations by LPM is sometimes the weakest position if the LPM is only limited to carrying out the task of collecting aspirations, but is unable to identify or even provide input or correct and provide input for development, therefore according to Hamdi (2014) that aspiration acceptance activities must be carried out in several ways, such as (1) exploring or proactively searching for community aspirations in the field); (2) accommodate the aspirations of the people who are conveyed directly (3) study and master all applicable laws and regulations relating to development programs (4) discuss or discuss these three things together outside of deliberation with stakeholders.

Community Empowerment Institutions as Motivators

This motivator is seen as the spearhead of development, so the challenge is how to form motivators for community empowerment, these motivators can be leaders in the community or all government officials in the Kelurahan, many things must be prepared, both preparation for personal resilience, the ability to understand environment and social capital, the ability to invite, socialize, and the ability to become a facilitator, so that the role of motivator is very important. The existence of LPM as a motivator is good, but it is contrary to the condition of the community in the Molokode U village, namely the lack of community ability in submitting development proposals, increased by the lack of public attention in maintaining the physical condition of the development that was made in the previous year.

Motivator is a person or group who is able to make other people to be able to do something. In LPM, a motivator is needed who can encourage the community in the Kelurahan to be able to do what they can do to realize the welfare of the community itself according to the wishes of the community. So that the challenge for LPM Molokode U Village itself is a way to form community empowerment motivators who can motivate the community in the Kelurahan. According to Theresia (2015) Motivators are seen as spearheads and pioneers of development, so the challenge is how to form motivators for community empowerment. Meanwhile, according to Efendhi (2016), an independent society as a participant means the opening of space and capacity to develop creative potential, control the environment of its own resources, solve problems independently, and participate in determining the political process on state land. Communities participate in the development process and government.

Community Empowerment Institutions as Dynamizers

Whereas in optimizing the implementation of community empowerment, LPM is observant and wise in monitoring and observing various activities in the community which are always dynamic, placing itself in the midst of the community to be able to directly engage in

encouraging the community to play an active role in development activities in each area where they live. An independent society as participation means the opening of space and capacity to develop creative potential, control the environment and its own resources, solve problems independently, and participate in determining the political process in the realm of the State. The community participates in the development and governance processes. Regarding the data obtained from field interviews, it can be said that the existence of Community Empowerment Institutions as dynamists does not look good. The agency's duties are not carried out optimally. the development that occurs is not evaluated by the members or the Chairperson of the LPM itself.

Optimizing the implementation of community empowerment LPM should be wiser in monitoring and observing various activities and programs in the community. LPM is also expected to be able to place itself in the midst of society and encourage the community to play an active role in the programs created by LPM. Institutions as dynamizers can be realized through monitoring and supervision as revealed by Sjafrizal (2014) the important function used by institutions as dynamists is to monitor and supervise development program activities. Meanwhile, according to Mahi (2017) the function of the institution as a dynamist is to evaluate the development program. Some of these views when referring to current research are that the agency's tasks are not carried out optimally where the development that occurs is not evaluated by members or the Chairperson of the LPM itself

Conclusion

The existence of the Community Empowerment Institution as a Facilitator has not yet been seen, this can be seen from the involvement of the community in determining the priority of program proposals held by LPM which is less than optimal, the community only attends and listens but does not comment much. People also think that LPM cannot do anything about the program that will be planned. The existence of LPM as a Mediator has been seen, but has not yet had an impact on the community at large, this can be seen from the participation of the community which only active people and parties who care about development are involved, many people are less concerned with the program, the community providing information is only limited to meetings, the influence is due to the lack of socialization of LPM to the community. The existence of LPM as a motivator is good, but it is contrary to the condition of the community in the Molokode U village, namely the lack of community ability in submitting development proposals, increased by the lack of public attention in maintaining the physical condition of the development that was made in the previous year. The existence of the Community Empowerment Institution as a dynamist does not look good. Institutional duties are not carried out optimally. the development that occurs is not evaluated by the members or the Chairperson of the LPM itself.

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