

## Effectiveness of Village Fund Utilization in Supporting Rural Development (Case Study of Punt Village, Soromandi Subdistrict, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara)



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**ABSTRACT:** This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of the use of village funds in supporting the development of rural community empowerment and to analyze Community Involvement in the Management of the Village Fund Budget for the Development and Empowerment of Rural Communities in Punt Village, Soromandi District, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara. The method used in this research is qualitative descriptive with data collection techniques through interviews, observation and documentation. Based on the analysis conducted, the utilization of village funds in Punt Village, Soromandi District, Bima Regency has shown high effectiveness in supporting rural development. The programs implemented, especially infrastructure development such as drainage and concrete rebates, have been in accordance with the priorities and needs of the community. This effectiveness can be seen from various aspects, including timeliness, cost calculation, measurement, choice making, thinking, order execution, and goal setting. Community participation was quite good in the planning stage through the village development planning meetings, although the involvement of women still needs to be improved. However, participation in the implementation and evaluation stages is still less than optimal. Nevertheless, the overall management of village funds has contributed positively to welfare improvement, infrastructure development, and community empowerment, including through cadre training and the development of village-owned enterprises. To maximize the benefits of village funds, it is necessary to increase community participation in all stages, especially in program implementation and evaluation, as well as to increase the involvement of women in decision-making.

**KEYWORDS:** Effectiveness, Village Fund, Development

### I. INTRODUCTION

For more than six decades, the government has taken turns or simply patchworked national policies on villages. However, from the many changes in the existing laws, starting from 1948 (Law No. 22 of 1948 on the Principles of Regional Government to 2004 (Law No. 32 of 2004 on Regional Government), it has not yet provided a guarantee that village regulations are serious and have high consistency in efforts to build village independence and welfare and PP No. 72 of 2005 on Village Government. Rather, it is in accordance with the principles of recognition and subsidiarity. The two types of authority are recognized and determined directly by law and elaborated through government regulations (Sujarweni, 2019).

During this period, villages struggled to grow, budgets were low, and villages were increasingly marginalized. Law No. 5/1979 on Villages denies the diversity of village institutions and institutions in the archipelago that actually have the right of origin and treats policies that are asymmetrical. Likewise, Law No. 41/1999 on Forestry further added to the list of village marginalization. It even cuts the rights of local communities to take advantage of forests as a source of independence and welfare of the surrounding community. This Forestry Law has destroyed the institutional design of customary villages, which have been the loyal guardians of forests (customary land) in Indonesia from extinction. The government also issued Law No. 7/2004 on Water Resources, and this law has also been significantly involved in the uprooting of villages from their rights to basic community needs for water (Ra'is, 2018).

The enactment of Law No. 6/2014 Article 1 on Villages states that the Village is a legal community unit that has territorial boundaries that is authorized to regulate and manage government affairs, the interests of the local community based on community initiatives, origin rights, and or traditional rights that are recognized and respected in the Government system of the

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Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. The Village Government is the administration of government affairs and the interests of the local community within the government system of the Republic of Indonesia.

Government Regulation No. 60/2014 on Village Funds sourced from the State Budget, Article 1, paragraph 2: Village Funds are Funds sourced from the State Budget that are earmarked for Villages that are transferred through the Regency/City Regional Budget and used to finance governance, development implementation, community development, and community empowerment. Furthermore, Article 6 states that the Village Fund is transferred through the regency/city APBD and then transferred to the APBDesa.

For more than six decades, the laws and regulations on villages have continued to change but have not yet guaranteed serious and consistent village regulation to build village independence and welfare (Fikrillah, 2022; Muhiddin, 2017; Beyk, 2022). During this time, villages have difficulty developing, budgets are limited, and villages are increasingly marginalized. In fact, several sectoral regulations also revoked the rights and preservation of villages, such as Law No. 5/1979 that denied the independence of village institutions, Law No. 41/1999 on Forestry that restricted community rights to forests, and Law No. 7/2004 on Water Resources that also revoked village rights to water (Borni, 2015).

Law No. 6/2014 recognizes villages as a collection of legal communities that have the authority to regulate and manage government affairs and the interests of local communities based on community initiatives, origin rights, and traditional rights. Government Regulation No. 60/2014 regulates the distribution of Village Funds sourced from the state budget to finance the administration, development, community training, and empowerment of village communities (Nurhayati, 2017; Mongilala, 2016; Aziz, 2016).

The management of the Village Fund must fulfill principles such as open planning, implementation, and evaluation by involving, administrative, technical, and legal accountability, economical, directed, and controlled management, according to the needs of the village community through deliberation, and recorded in the APBDesa (Juliantara, 2003; Subroto, 2009). The distribution of the Village Fund is carried out in stages, with phase I amounting to 60% and phase II amounting to 40%, indicating the existence of problems in Mako Village in managing the Village Fund, such as low human resource capabilities, lack of procedures and infrastructure facilities, lack of critical thinking of the community, high risk of fund management, implementation that is not according to plan, and lack of transparency in reporting (Arna suryani, 2019; Ristanti, 2023; Baso, 2023). These problems occur at the planning and budgeting, implementation and administration, and reporting and accountability stages (Hendrawati, 2020). Initial observations in Punt Village showed that the salted fish processing training program as an effort to empower fishing communities stopped at the training stage only and did not continue in the sustainable production process. Therefore, this study aims to assess the effectiveness of Village Fund utilization in supporting rural community empowerment development in Punt Village, Soromandi District, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **A. Village Development**

In Law Number 6 Year 2014, Village Development planning as referred to in Article 79 is organized by involving the Village community. In preparing Village Development planning as referred to in paragraph (1), the Village Government shall organize Village Development planning meetings. The Village Development planning deliberation sets priorities, programs, activities, and Village Development needs that are funded by the Village Budget, Village community self-help, and/or the Regency/City Regional Budget.

In general, the Village Fund is used to finance the administration, development, community empowerment, and community, but the Minister of Finance Regulation No. 93/PMK.07/2015 mandates that the priority use of the Village Fund is directed to finance development and community empowerment. Furthermore, the Minister of Finance Regulation states that the use of Village Funds is carried out in accordance with the priorities set by the Minister of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration.

### **B. Village Development Goals**

The purpose of village development according to Permendagri No.114/2014 is to improve the welfare of rural communities, the quality of human life, and poverty reduction through the provision of basic needs, the development of village facilities and infrastructure, the development of local economic potential, and the sustainable use of natural resources and the environment. In the long term, the goal is to directly improve the welfare of rural communities through increased employment, business, and income opportunities with the approach of environmental development, business development, and human development, as well

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as indirectly laying solid foundations for national development. Meanwhile, the short-term goal is to increase effectiveness and efficiency in economic activities and the utilization of natural resources.

### **C. Definition of Effectiveness**

Etymologically, the word effectiveness comes from the word effective, in English effectiveness which means successful. According to the large Indonesian dictionary, the word effective means effect, influence, effect or can bring results. So effectiveness is usability, the suitability in an activity of people who carry out tasks with the intended target. According to Siagian (2002) effectiveness is the completion of work at the right time. Meanwhile, according to Kurniawan (2005) defines effectiveness as the ability to carry out tasks, functions (operation of program activities or missions) of an organization in the absence of pressure or tension between its implementation (Kambey, 2017).

Furthermore, Makmur (2010) in his book on the effectiveness of institutional supervision policies argues that effectiveness can be measured in several ways, namely:

1. Timing accuracy: the time used appropriately will affect the level of effectiveness of a program or activity in achieving goals.
2. Accuracy of cost calculation: this is done so that in running a program there is no shortage in terms of funds or budget until the program is completed.
3. Accuracy in measurement: this means that in running a program must apply standardization. The accuracy of the standards used in implementing a program is a measure in achieving effectiveness.
4. Accuracy in making choices: is an activity carried out for success in achieving goals because in determining choices a very important process is needed to achieve effectiveness.
5. Accuracy of thinking can determine the effectiveness in achieving predetermined goals.
6. Accuracy in carrying out orders: is an organizational or individual activity that has the ability to give orders clearly and easily understood and if the orders given cannot be understood, the implementation of these orders will fail and ultimately be ineffective.
7. Accuracy in determining goals. Organizations of any kind will always try to achieve the goals they have agreed on beforehand and are usually always written down in a written document that is more strategic in nature, so that it becomes a guideline or as a reference for implementing all organizational activities.

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

The research approach talks more about how the researcher looks at and studies a social symptom or reality, all of which are based on the basic assumptions of social science (Sugiyono, 2009).

In this study, researchers will examine the effectiveness of the utilization of village funds in supporting the development of rural community empowerment in Punt Village, Soromandi Subdistrict, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara. In order for this approach to be more focused in accordance with the desired objectives, this type of research is descriptive qualitative. The reason the research uses descriptive qualitative research is because it is in accordance with the nature and objectives of the research, namely obtaining a description of how about the effectiveness of the utilization of village funds in supporting the development of rural community empowerment.

While the method used in this research is qualitative research method used to obtain in-depth data, namely data that contains the true meaning of the data (Abdussamad, 2021). Qualitative research is used not merely to find the truth, but the author's deep understanding of what is being studied. Descriptive research tries to describe how the effectiveness of the utilization of village funds in supporting the development of rural community empowerment. In Punt Village, Soromandi Subdistrict, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

### **IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

#### **A. Effectiveness of Village Funds Utilization.**

Based on Government Regulation Number 60 of 2014 concerning Village Funds sourced from the APBN, Article 1, paragraph 2: Village Funds are Funds sourced from the State Budget that are earmarked for Villages that are transferred through the Regency/City Regional Budget and used to finance governance, development implementation, community development, and community empowerment. Furthermore, Article 6 states that the Village Fund is transferred through the regency/city APBD and then transferred to the APBDesa. This was conveyed by Mr. Izman Hakim as the Head of Punt Mengatakan Village:

*"The planned program for making drainage is one month, starting at the beginning of May until the end of May. And the construction of concrete rebates was carried out for one month as well, starting on October 2 to November*

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5, 2023. The construction went smoothly without any obstacles. For the construction of drainage, which amounted to Rp.126,483,540. And for the construction of concrete rebates, the cost was Rp.81,000,000. The construction of drainage and concrete rebates is in accordance with the accuracy of the measurements. Why the construction of drainage and concrete rebates is one of the priority programs for village development, especially in the oi mada tula hamlet and wadu kadera hamlet, because in the oi mada tula hamlet there has been no drainage construction and in the wadu kadera hamlet there has been no concrete rebate construction. The construction of drainage was carried out in the oi mada tula hamlet and the construction of concrete rebates in the wadu kadera hamlet because there had been no construction or manufacture of drainage and concrete rebates in these hamlets. The construction of drainage and concrete rebates is in accordance with orders or directions from our village government, so that development can run well and smoothly and with the support of all village communities. With the construction of the drainage, the community is happy and no longer afraid of clogged water flooding. And the purpose of the construction of concrete rebates because the road during the rainy season is always inundated with water and mud so that people have difficulty walking and doing activities ".

And supported by the opinion of Mr. Habibi as the BPD of Punti Village who said:

*"Drainage construction was carried out for one month, starting in early May until the end of May. And the construction of concrete rebates was carried out for one month as well, starting on October 2 to November 5, 2023. for the construction of drainage amounting to Rp.126,483,540. And for the construction of concrete rebates amounting to Rp.81,000,000. The construction of drainage and concrete rebates can be said to be accurate in measurement. Since in the oi mada tula hamlet there is no drainage construction and in the wadu kadera hamlet there is no concrete rebate construction. The construction of drainage was carried out in the oi mada tula hamlet and the construction of concrete rebates in the wadu kadera hamlet because the reality is that in these hamlets there has been no construction of drainage and concrete rebates. Orders or directions from the village government in village development can run well and smoothly. And all workers who carry out the construction of drainage and concrete rebates follow all the expected directions and orders. for that purpose the construction of drainage to facilitate the flow of water so that it is not clogged. And the purpose of the construction of concrete rebates is to repair damaged roads, because the road when the rainy season is always inundated with water and mud."*

Then reinforced by Mr. Firmansyah as the Youth Organization of Punti Village who said:

*"Concrete and drainage rebate program. If I'm not mistaken, the construction of concrete rebates was in October. And the construction of drainage was carried out in May 2023, if I'm not mistaken, one month after the construction. In accordance with the deliberations, we also attended the village meeting that the budget planned for these two programs, namely for the concrete rebate construction program amounting to Rp.81,000,000 and for the construction of drainage amounting to Rp.126,483,540. Judging from the achievement of the construction completed on time. The construction of drainage and concrete rebates is in accordance with the accuracy of the expected measurements of the two programs. In the hamlet of oi mada tula it is very severe because there is no rainwater channeling and drainage construction, this system has an important role in creating a healthy environment for the community. And in wadu kadera hamlet there has been no concrete rebate construction, because previously it was quite severe during the rainy season the alley was always flooded with water and the road was slippery and there were accidents. In oi mada tula hamlet and wadu kadera hamlet there has been no construction of drainage and concrete rabat. the village government chose the construction of concrete rabat and drainage. The community complained about clogged water and damaged roads, so it is hoped that the construction of drainage will facilitate the flow of water so that it is not clogged. And the purpose of the construction of concrete rebates is to repair damaged alleys"*.

From the results of the interviews with respondents above, it can be concluded that the utilization of village funds in supporting rural development is carried out effectively and efficiently with a level of benefit to the community and its priority use in the field of physical development (Makmur, 2010).

### **B. Community Involvement in Village Fund Budget Management.**

Based on Permendagri (Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs) No.113 of 2014 concerning Village Financial Management, Village Financial Management is an overall activity that includes planning, implementation, administration, reporting and accountability of village finances. For this reason, the management of village funds must really be carried out by the community with good participation. In the Implementation of Development, Cohen and Uphoff divide participation into several

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stages including the decision-making stage, the implementation stage, and the evaluation stage. Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Izman Hakim as the Head of Punt Village:

*"Because for people who are laymen and do not understand the problem of village funds, we only see that the building in the form of infrastructure is ready to be implemented, and can be used for the convenience of local residents".*

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Habibi as BPD:

*"Community participation in attending meetings in the form of musrenbangdes has been good and supports all decisions that have been made. and at the dusun level, community participation has also been quite adequate, attended by men and women and youth".*

And supported by Mr. Firmansah. S.Pd as Youth Organization:

*"For the youth, in this village there are quite a lot, who also participate quite a lot, especially in deliberations in each hamlet. The youth in this village mostly propose the need for sports facilities such as soccer fields and uniforms during development planning meetings held at the mosque".*

Likewise, community participation in conducting the evaluation stage of the village apparatus is classified as passive and only relies on evidence that development has been built in the form of physical buildings that have been completed by development officers, but the funds spent on development itself are not given much attention by the community.

### **C. Effectiveness of Village Fund Utilization in Supporting Rural Development in Punt Village, Soromandi Subdistrict, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.**

The concept of effectiveness is how well the work is done, the extent to which people achieve the expected results. This means that if a job can be done with planning both in terms of time, cost, and quality, it can be said to be efficient (Sunarto, 2022). Effectiveness is the degree of achievement of a goal, an effort is said to be effective if the effort is ideally achieved, effectiveness can be said with relatively definite measures (Atia, 2022).

The definition of effectiveness refers to the degree of success of a public sector operation, so that an activity is considered effective if it has a major impact on the ability to provide public services, which is a predetermined goal (Luahambowo, 2023). The benefit of analyzing the effectiveness of village fund management for the community is as a benchmark in providing services provided by village officials (Anggraini, 2020).

Based on indicators according to Makmur (2010: 7) in his book on the effectiveness of supervisory institutional policies, he argues that effectiveness can be measured in several ways, namely: 1) Timing accuracy, is a goal that has been designed in the form of a village activity program that has been completed on time, this is indicated by the absence of delays in submitting the use of the budget to the Regent by the Village Head; 2) The accuracy of cost calculations, has been effectively marked by the absence of shortages or deficits that occur against the budget used, there are also no levies outside the RAB that have been approved previously during the course of the program. The government has also given the right orders marked by all processes running in accordance with predetermined rules; 3) Accuracy in measurement, in the construction of drainage and concrete rebates in accordance with the accuracy of measurement, this can be seen from the achievement of the construction which was completed on time planned without any obstacles; 4) The accuracy in making choices, refers to whether or not a location is determined, if the choice is right this determines success. From the research results obtained that the programs that have been planned and implemented are in accordance with what is prioritized to improve village development. This can be seen in the construction of drainage and concrete rebates as one of the priority programs for village development, especially in the oi mada tula hamlet and wadu kadera hamlet, because in the oi mada tula hamlet there is no drainage construction and in the wadu kadera hamlet there is no concrete rebate construction, so it is necessary to carry out the construction; 5) Accuracy of thinking, is appropriate because the construction of drainage was carried out in the hamlet of oi mada tula and the construction of concrete rebates in the hamlet of wadu kadera because in that hamlet there has been no construction of drainage and concrete rebates when compared to other hamlets and community complaints related to inadequate village infrastructure. So that development needs to be carried out; 6) Accuracy in carrying out orders, is in accordance with the ability to give clear orders and is easily understood by subordinates. This can be seen in the drainage and concrete rebate development program according to the orders or directions of the village head, so that development can run well and smoothly; 7) accuracy in determining goals, in accordance with the planned and implemented goals what is prioritized to improve village development is compiled in village regulations intended by the village government which are agreed upon by the community which are compiled in the RPJM and RKPDesa which

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are then determined by the budget in the RAB. So it is said that the accuracy of this goal is based on the view of the regulations set by the central government. This can be seen in the drainage and rebate development program in Punt Village.

### ***D. Community Involvement in the Management of the Village Fund Budget for Rural Development in Punt Village, Soromandi Subdistrict, Bima District***

The first stage carried out by the community in managing the Village Fund is a meeting to collect community aspirations about what the community needs to get facilities in the village (Ariflin, 2022). In this case, the meeting is called Musrenbang (Musyawarah Perencanaan Pembangunan). If it is carried out at the dusun level, it is called Musdus, if it is carried out at the village or village level, it is called Musrenbangdes (Sahputra, 2021).

In its implementation, the community first conducts a Musdus in each dusun, and this Musdus involves all elements of the community in the dusun, such as men, women, youth and so on. After that, the results of the musrenbangdus are brought to the next stage, the Musrenbangdes. The musrenbangdes will be attended by several elements, including the village apparatus, women from the Family Welfare Empowerment (PKK), representatives from several dusun, and youth elements in the village.

Community empowerment is aimed at shaping the mindset of the community about the importance of welfare, so that people can be sensitive to their surroundings to further develop the potential of themselves and their environment. With the formation of this mindset, the community will be more advanced and independent so that the government only needs to support and support the community, the use of funds will be more effective and efficient because more things can be funded not only physical development as has been done before. However, the funding that occurs is more inclined towards physical development, resulting in an imbalance where the government only focuses on physical development and overrides the empowerment of its people. So that follow-up is needed from the government to pay more attention to things other than physical development, because the level of welfare is not only assessed by how much and good the existing infrastructure is, but also assessed by the quality of adequate human resources.

## **V. CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the utilization of village funds in Punt Village, Soromandi Sub-district, Bima Regency has shown high effectiveness in supporting rural development. The programs implemented, especially infrastructure development such as drainage and concrete rebates, have been in accordance with community priorities and needs. This effectiveness can be seen from various aspects, including timeliness, cost calculation, measurement, choice making, thinking, order execution, and goal setting. Community participation was quite good in the planning stage through village development planning meetings, although the involvement of women still needs to be improved. However, participation in the implementation and evaluation stages is still less than optimal. Nevertheless, the overall management of village funds has contributed positively to welfare improvement, infrastructure development, and community empowerment, including through cadre training and the development of village-owned enterprises. From an Islamic perspective, the objectives of economic development have been implemented well, fairly, and according to the needs of the community. To maximize the benefits of village funds, it is necessary to increase community participation in all stages, especially in program implementation and evaluation, as well as to increase the involvement of women in decision-making.

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