

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT MANAGEMENT AT BANK RAMLI SIDODADI, SIDODADI VILLAGE, SAMARINDA CITY

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Abstract

Community empowerment management through the Bank Ramli Sidodadi Program in Sidodadi Village, Samarinda City, is a strategic effort that integrates economic and environmental conservation aspects. This program encourages active community involvement in waste management through the provision of facilities, education, and skills training. This study shows that the empowerment process is carried out systematically and participatively, and is influenced by several supporting and hindering factors that affect the sustainability of the program. The qualitative descriptive method used in this study reveals that the success of the program depends on collaboration between managers, the community, and strong institutional support. The results of the research on the community empowerment process in the Bank Ramli Sidodadi Program are as follows: (1) Problem Identification, by identifying the needs of the community in Sidodadi Village through observation and discussion. (2) Planning, including waste savings, environmental education, and recycling training. (3) Implementation, consisting of deposit, weighing, recording, exchange, and training. (4) Monitoring and Evaluation through recording, documentation, and village competitions. (5) Economic Impact in the form of additional income and business opportunities from recycling. (6) Environmental Impact evident in reduced waste and increased community awareness.

Keywords: community empowerment, waste bank, waste management

Abstrak

Pengelolaan pemberdayaan masyarakat melalui Program Bank Ramli Sidodadi di Kelurahan Sidodadi, Kota Samarinda, merupakan upaya strategis yang mengintegrasikan aspek ekonomi dan pelestarian lingkungan. Program ini mendorong keterlibatan aktif masyarakat dalam pengelolaan sampah melalui penyediaan sarana, edukasi, serta pelatihan keterampilan. Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa proses pemberdayaan dilakukan secara sistematis dan partisipatif, serta dipengaruhi oleh beberapa faktor pendukung dan penghambat yang memengaruhi keberlanjutan program. Metode deskriptif kualitatif yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini mengungkap bahwa keberhasilan program bergantung pada kolaborasi antara pengelola, masyarakat, dan dukungan kelembagaan yang kuat. Hasil penelitian mengenai proses pemberdayaan masyarakat pada Program Bank Ramli Sidodadi, yaitu: (1) Identifikasi Masalah, dengan mengidentifikasi kebutuhan masyarakat di Kelurahan Sidodadi melalui observasi dan diskusi (2) Perencanaan meliputi tabungan sampah, edukasi lingkungan, dan pelatihan daur ulang. (3) Pelaksanaan berupa penyeteroran, penimbangan, pencatatan, penukaran, dan pelatihan. (4) Monitoring dan Evaluasi dilakukan melalui pencatatan, dokumentasi, dan lomba kampung salai. (5) Dampak Ekonomi berupa tambahan penghasilan dan peluang usaha dari daur ulang. (6) Dampak Lingkungan terlihat dari berkurangnya sampah dan meningkatnya kesadaran warga.

Kata kunci: pemberdayaan masyarakat, bank sampah, pengelolaan sampah

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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia, as the fourth most populous country in the world, faces serious challenges in waste management. Significant population growth has direct implications for the increase in national waste volume. The latest data from the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration (2024) shows that Indonesia's population has reached 282 million. This increase has contributed to the accumulation of 31.9 million tons of waste per year (KLHK, 2024). This situation calls for a waste management strategy that is not only environmentally oriented but also capable of providing social and economic benefits to the community.

One area that faces significant problems related to waste management is the city of Samarinda, the capital of East Kalimantan Province. As a city with a high population density and rapid urbanization, Samarinda faces a significant increase in waste production. The Central Statistics Agency (2023) noted that the volume of waste in this city reached 841,286 cubic meters in 2023. This figure shows that the conventional waste management system, which relies solely on collection and disposal at final disposal sites (TPA), is no longer adequate. A new approach is needed that integrates the principles of sustainability with active community participation.

In this context, a new paradigm that views waste as an economic resource needs to be developed. The 3R concept (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) has become a reference in many studies on waste management. According to Dai and Pakaya (2019), the application of the 3R principle allows waste to be treated not as a burden, but as a material that can provide added value if managed properly. However, the effectiveness of implementing this concept is highly dependent on the extent to which the community is actively involved in every stage of management. This is in line with Passarini's opinion in Meutia, et.al. (2022), which emphasizes the importance of community-based management in building awareness, participation, and collective responsibility for the environment.

One concrete form of community-based waste management is the waste bank program. Waste banks not only serve as a means of collecting and managing sorted waste, but also as an instrument of community empowerment. Through a waste-based savings mechanism, communities are encouraged to sort, collect, and distribute waste that has economic value. This program not only reduces the volume of waste but also provides financial benefits for the residents involved. Thus, the waste bank serves a dual function: an environmental solution and a means of improving welfare.

According to Sumardjo in Endah (2020), empowerment is an important process to increase the capacity of communities to be independent and able to actively participate in development. This principle is very relevant to the main objective of waste banks, which is to build environmental awareness while strengthening the economic independence of communities. In the city of Samarinda, one concrete example of empowerment through waste management is the Ramli Sidodadi Waste Bank. This program has demonstrated that waste management can be used as a tool for environmental education and economic empowerment. The community not only benefits financially from the waste they deposit, but also gains new knowledge about the importance of preserving the environment.

Based on this background, it is important to examine in greater depth how Bank Sampah Ramli Sidodadi manages its community empowerment program. This study aims to understand the

management strategies implemented, the forms of community participation involved, and the resulting impacts on both the environment and the socio-economic welfare of residents. By understanding these aspects, it is hoped that a comprehensive picture can be obtained of the role of waste banks as innovative solutions that not only tackle waste problems but also strengthen the foundations of sustainable development through community empowerment.

METHODS

The research method used in this study is a qualitative approach with a case study design. A qualitative approach was chosen because it provides a deep understanding of the social realities and phenomena occurring at Bank Ramli Sidodadi, particularly in relation to interactions between management and customers. The case study design allows researchers to examine in detail the processes, dynamics, and context underlying bank management practices, thus obtaining a complete and comprehensive picture. This aligns with Creswell's (2018) opinion, which states that a qualitative approach with a case study provides researchers with the opportunity to intensively explore a program or activity within a specific setting, resulting in richer and more contextual research results.

The research instruments used included interview guides, observation sheets, and documentation notes. The interview guides were semi-structured to allow for flexible exploration based on respondents' responses, while the observation sheets were used to record activities, behaviors, and interactions occurring in the field. Documentation, in the form of bank archives, activity reports, and administrative records, also served as supporting data to strengthen the research findings. These varied instruments are in accordance with Sugiyono's (2020) view, which emphasizes that the use of various data collection techniques in qualitative research aims to produce rich and layered data, thereby supporting the validity of the findings.

The research respondents consisted of two groups: the management of Bank Ramli Sidodadi, which included leaders and staff directly involved in the institution's management, and customers who interact with and utilize banking services. Respondents were selected purposively, based on their relevance and contribution to providing the necessary information, consistent with the research focus.

Data analysis was conducted inductively, with three main stages. First, data reduction, which involves selecting, simplifying, and focusing raw data from interviews, observations, and documentation. Second, data presentation in thematic descriptive form facilitates the identification of patterns, categories, and relationships between findings. Third, conclusions were drawn and verified through source triangulation, comparing information from various respondents and supporting data. This triangulation process was used to ensure the validity of the findings, ensuring a high level of trustworthiness. Therefore, this research method is expected to produce in-depth, credible, and contextually relevant analyses.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The results of this study were obtained through data collection in the field using triangulation techniques. The author combined various data collection methods, namely in-depth interviews with Bank Ramli administrators and customers, direct observation at Bank Ramli Sidodadi in

Samarinda City, and a study of relevant data and archives. This approach was taken to ensure the accuracy of the data obtained, so that the research results could describe the actual conditions in the field.

Stages of community empowerment in the tourism development program in Kampung Ketupat Samarinda consist of three main stages that are interrelated, namely the awareness stage, the capacity stage, and the enrichment stage.

1. Problem Identification

The problem identification stage is an important basis for program implementation, in which administrators and residents jointly observe the social and environmental conditions in the Sidodadi area. The main problems identified include high volumes of household waste, low awareness of waste management, and limited community-based facilities. Additionally, the economic conditions of the community, which are classified as lower-middle income, highlight the need for environmentally-based creative economic initiatives. The identification process was conducted participatively through discussions, observations, and regular meetings, leading to a shared understanding that waste management also impacts residents' economic well-being.

2. Planning

Bank Ramli administrators and the community entered into a collaborative program planning phase through community forums. This planning included developing a waste disposal schedule, a weighing and recording system, types of waste accepted, and a savings exchange mechanism. The community was also involved in designing training activities such as recycling and waste sorting awareness. This phase emphasized the active role of the community as subjects in designing programs according to local needs.

3. Implementation

The implementation phase is the tangible manifestation of the planning, where residents begin actively depositing sorted inorganic waste at Bank Ramli Sidodadi. Each deposit is weighed and recorded in a savings book as proof of transaction. These savings can be exchanged for cash or essential goods, providing direct economic benefits. Additionally, waste management training is conducted to enhance residents' creativity in transforming waste into valuable products. This phase is marked by a sustained increase in community participation and enthusiasm.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the Bank Ramli Sidodadi Program is carried out regularly through administrative records and field observations. Administrative monitoring includes recording transactions and supervising schedules, while field monitoring assesses community participation and environmental conditions. Evaluation is conducted through joint meetings and discussions to assess program achievements and formulate solutions to emerging obstacles. This process reflects a cycle of reflection and continuous improvement in program implementation.

Discussion

The discussion of the research results focuses on two main aspects, namely the stages of community empowerment in the Bank Ramli Sidodadi Program and the economic and

environmental impacts that influence the success of this empowerment. Conceptually, community empowerment is understood as a process that not only aims to increase individual capacity but also strengthens community independence in managing existing resources. In this context, field findings show consistency with the theoretical framework of community empowerment proposed by Ife and Tesoriero (2008), which emphasizes that empowerment must begin with the identification of common problems, participatory planning, implementation involving residents, and evaluation mechanisms that ensure sustainability.

The results of the study show that the problem identification stage in this program was carried out through joint discussions between managers and the community, which successfully mapped out the main problems, such as low public awareness of waste management, limited supporting facilities, and household economic vulnerability. This process demonstrates the principle of participation, in line with Chambers (1996), who emphasizes that problem identification must be carried out participatively so that the solutions produced are contextual and accepted by the community. Thus, this initial stage strengthens the foundation for the subsequent empowerment process.

The planning stage of the Bank Ramli Sidodadi program actively involved the community in designing a waste-based savings system, collection mechanisms, and training agendas. Community involvement in planning demonstrates a bottom-up planning practice, which, according to Mardikanto and Soebiato (2019), is key to ensuring that empowerment programs are not merely instructive but truly reflect the real needs of the community. This is in line with field findings, where the community feels a sense of ownership of the program because they participated in developing the strategy and technical implementation.

During the implementation stage, residents actively participated in sorting and depositing waste, as well as attending training sessions. These activities had a direct impact, both in terms of improving environmental conditions and increasing household economic welfare. According to Saepudin & Mulyono (2019), active community participation in program implementation is a key indicator of empowerment success, because without community involvement, programs risk becoming unsustainable. Field observations show an increase in community awareness of waste management, as well as the use of waste savings for daily needs.

The final stage is monitoring and evaluation, which is carried out regularly through administrative records and consultation forums. This evaluation enables continuous improvement and ensures the sustainability of the program. This model is in line with the principle of participatory evaluation mentioned by Chambers (2017), that evaluation is not merely an administrative activity, but also a forum for collective learning to strengthen community capacity.

The economic impact of this program is quite significant. Waste-based savings reduce household expenses while opening up new recycling-based business opportunities. This demonstrates a multiplier effect that not only benefits individuals but also encourages local economic initiatives. According to Mardikanto (2015), successful empowerment is when communities not only reap short-term benefits but also develop economic independence.

The environmental impact is also clearly visible through changes in community behavior in sorting and managing waste, reduced indiscriminate waste disposal practices, and the creation of a cleaner and healthier environment. Environmental education provided through training has fostered a new culture of waste management, aligning with Ife and Tesoriero's (2008) view that empowerment must also target environmental sustainability, not just economic aspects.

Thus, the results of this study confirm existing empowerment theories and demonstrate concrete practices at the community level. The Bank Ramli Sidodadi program not only successfully increased community capacity in waste management but also had significant economic and environmental impacts. The combination of participatory planning, community-involved implementation, and sustainability evaluation were key factors in the program's success. This reinforces Sutomo's (2021) view that empowerment success is determined by the program's ability to build participation, independence, and desire at the community level. This is further supported by Mulyono's (2012) opinion, which explains that the community empowerment process requires a community education approach to further strengthen public awareness, as one way to support program sustainability.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussions, it can be concluded that community empowerment in the Bank Ramli Sidodadi program is carried out through the stages of problem identification, planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. The impacts of the Bank Ramli Sidodadi program are environmental and economic impacts. The economic impact helps alleviate the burden on households through waste savings that can be exchanged for money or basic necessities, while the environmental impact increases residents' awareness of sorting and managing waste at home, reducing indiscriminate waste disposal, and creating a cleaner and healthier environment. The education and training provided also foster a new culture of environmental sustainability at the community level.

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