

# The Role Of The Village Government In Improving The Quality Of Life Of Village Communities In Sukabumi District

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## Abstract

*This research was conducted to understand the role of the village government in an effort to improve the quality of life of rural communities with the study area in Kebonpedes Village, Kebonpedes District, Sukabumi Regency. The analysis was conducted to determine the driving factors and inhibiting factors of the process of improving the Quality of Community Life with a case study of the village of Kebonpedes, Sukabumi Regency. The form of selecting the research location takes into account the problems and analysis of solutions that can be used. The research approach uses a qualitative approach using interviews, observation and documentation. Informants from this study were the Kebonpedes Village Government, village officials, community leaders and the Kebonpedes Village Community. in the process of analyzing using triangulation techniques. The results of the study prove that the role of the Village Government in Improving the Quality of Community Life in Kebonpedes Village has been going well, it's just that the problems that still exist are due to the limitations that exist from the analysis of the factors driving and inhibiting the role of the village government. Alternative strategies offered from the research results for the purpose of Improving the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community, Sukabumi Regency, namely Utilizing the commitment of human resources (HR), Carrying out monitoring and evaluation activities regularly by the village government, in order to oversee the progress of efforts to improve the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community, and Conducting socialization by making an infographic that will facilitate the process of disseminating information in rural areas in Kebonpedes village.*

**Keywords :** Village Government, Strategy and Community Quality of Life.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The village is a legal community unit in which there are territorial boundaries and has its own authority to regulate and manage its own government affairs, as well as the interests of the community initiated by the community itself, origin and traditional rights whose position is recognized and respected in the existing system according to the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Republic of Indonesia (Law No. 6 of 2014). The village has an authority in the form of its own regional autonomy policy, in which the village has the right, authority and obligation to regulate its own government affairs and the interests of its people while still paying attention to the origins and socio-cultural values that are owned as the identity of each village in the area. Indonesia. This becomes an important point, where it will be easier for the village to direct the empowerment of its community. Kebonpedes village is located in the Kebonpedes sub-district, Sukabumi district, with an area of 196.14 hectares, with great potential in the agricultural sector, because in reality this village has the majority of residents who work daily as farmers and laborers. This is supported by geographical conditions, in which the village has an area of 90.35 hectares of rice fields and fields, 19.60 hectares of pond/pond and has a simple irrigation area of 69.10 hectares. Development development in villages, both community and infrastructure, is considered slow compared to development in urban areas, this is due to differences in the existence and views of the people of these two areas. Quality of life is a level of good or bad something or levels of degrees or levels of quality of life. According to Morris D. Morris (in Handayani, 2018) revealed that there is a Physical Quality of Life Index (PQLI) or it can also be called a quality of life index.

IKH is an index to measure people's welfare, in which there is a combination of 3 indicators, namely life expectancy, death rate and literacy rate. It can be said that if the IKH number is high, it can be

ascertained that an area is included in the category of more advanced quality of life proposed by Suharto (2004), that people can get assistance for their needs in the form of a social campaign, in which these needs will be fulfilled by the other party. Improving the quality of life requires empowering rural communities, where in community empowerment as conveyed by Jack Rothman (1968) it is stated that the Three models of community organization practice (or three models of community development) which mentioned these three methods can be used to facilitate understanding of community development, including namely: Local community development, Social planning, Social action. Empowerment or empowering has another meaning, namely strengthening or strengthening. The concept of empowerment presented by Suharto (2004) that empowerment refers to an ability of someone who is in the lower and weaker groups, so that they (1) have the ability to meet basic needs and are free from expressing opinions, ignorance, survival, and education; (2) become useful and beneficial by trying to increase their income in order to survive and obtain the need for goods and services; (3) participate in the implementation of development that is directly related to their lives, because these decisions will greatly affect their survival. Sennett, Cabb (1971) and Conway (1979) in Suhartono (2005) state that the factors of powerlessness themselves include, (a) because they do not have social security, (b) do not have experience in politics; (c) do not have access to information, this has a negative impact; (d) do not have financial support, do not have support in the financial sector; (e) no trainings were conducted; and (f) the existence of a tension that occurs in the form of physical or emotional.

The role of government according to Rasyid (1996) that there are three functions of government, empowerment (empowerment); development (development) the government's role in the development process is primarily aimed at improving people's welfare, realizing a better future for the country. The results of empirical data are based on data obtained by the author in the research process, which has not found any previous research that discusses the role of the village in improving the quality of life of the people in Kebonpedes Village. As research conducted by Abdul Karim (2019) states that each village has different potentials in each region, it's just that this potential is not managed optimally through BUMDes. The community empowerment program is a joint effort that focuses on what the community needs (Yasa and Sandiasa, 2018), regarding the importance of development in village communities, it is stated that the dimensions of social development (Harry Hikmat: 2013) include increasing productivity, social services, service delivery social welfare and community development. Thus, improving the quality of life of rural communities plays an important role in village development, so this research is interesting to study and become a reference for village government.

## II. METHODS

In this study, the author uses a qualitative research approach. The qualitative approach is a descriptive form of data, in which the results of the study are in the form of writing, speech and behavior from the observed. Qualitative data collection procedures in the form of interviews, observations, to documents or archives. The author chooses to use a qualitative approach in the research process regarding the role of the government with a case study in Kebonpedes Village, Sukabumi Regency in seeing its role in improving the quality of people's lives. The place of this research is located in Kebonpedes Village, Kebonpedes District, Sukabumi Regency. The information in this study is the village head of Kebonpedes, village officials, community leaders and the village community. In carrying out the research, the author uses interactive and non-interactive methods. Data verification techniques are used to describe the data that the authors get, the authors get the data by being collected really naturally and generally. This is useful as a source of supporting information in the research process. Analysis of the role of the village in Improving the Quality of Life of the Community in Kebonpedes Village. By taking into account the problems faced, the authors determine the analysis process in qualitative research, as proposed by Miles and Huberman (1992): Data collection, data reduction, data presentation and conclusion.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Kebonpedes Village is the smallest village in Kebonpedes District, Sukabumi Regency. One of the efforts made by the village government is to provide various services and village development. The results and discussion of this study describe the role of the village government in terms of service, development and empowerment aspects (Rasyid: 1996) which are described as follows:

#### a. Service

The form of services that can be provided by the village government to the community consists of public services, development services and protection services, this is given to the community with the main goal of creating community welfare. The services provided by the village government can be in the form of providing public goods and public services. These public goods can later be used jointly by everyone without exception, for example, artesian wells for drinking water, irrigating rice fields, fields, meeting halls, and many others. The efforts made by the village government of Kebonpedes are one way to prevent the possibility of overthrowing to take over the role of the village government, by doing the following:



**Fig 1.** Social media belonging to Kebonpedes Village (Facebook and Instagram)

The picture above is a social media owned by the Kebonpedes village government. The use of social media will be quite relevant for use today, by looking at the track record of the COVID-19 pandemic which limits direct interaction between people. The social media used are Facebook and Instagram, which are the most popular social media lately. According to [napoleoncat.com](http://napoleoncat.com), the majority of Instagram users are users in the 18-24 year age group, these users are active users who use Instagram regularly, this age group falls into the category of the young age group or millennial generation. Meanwhile, users who actively use Facebook are users of the 18-34 year age group. The magnitude of the influence of social media gives the idea of the Kebonpedes village government to be able to keep up with the times by adopting guidelines for the use of social media by government agencies by the Minister for Administrative Reform and Bureaucratic Reform of the Republic of Indonesia (KEMENPAN RB), including: a) in the process of disseminating government information, b) socialize development strategies and objectives, c) build interaction between the government and the community, d) accommodate and process people's aspirations, and e) build public trust in the government. This adoption process is a realization of the slogan belonging to the village of Kebonpedes, namely Kebonpedes PANTES (Productive, Trustworthy, Comfortable, Transparent, Educational and Prosperous). Maintaining order by preventing clashes between members of the community, ensuring that any changes that occur in society can take place peacefully. One of the efforts to prevent disputes between community members is one of the reasons for the formation of the Village Consultative Body or BPD. As stated in the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs number 110 of 2016 concerning BPD, that one of the duties of the BPD related to efforts to prevent disputes between citizens is as follows:

(a). Explore the aspirations of the community; (b). Accommodating community aspirations; (c). Managing community aspirations; (d). Channeling the aspirations of the community. The four points above will be carried out by trying to explore aspirations to institutions and village communities in the poor, special needs, women, and marginalized groups. Furthermore, after obtaining aspirations from the institution or village community, the BPD will accommodate the aspirations of the community by being administered and

conveyed in the BPD deliberation, later these aspirations will be adjusted to the needs of the village itself in terms of government, development, community development and budget. Later the aspirations in the BDP deliberation will be conveyed to the Village Head as the leader of village administration. In carrying out the duties of the BPD as an effort to maintain community order, it is to carry out operational activities that have been budgeted for in the Village Fund Allocation in accordance with the benefits, namely for village infrastructure programs and village development programs in accordance with the potential and characteristics of the village. Efforts to ensure fair treatment to the community as individuals, groups, or legal entities that are domiciled as beneficiaries of public services, either directly or indirectly by the Kebonpedes village government, are carried out by providing public services based on public interest, legal certainty, equal rights, balance of rights and obligations, professionalism, participatory, non-discriminatory, openness, accountability, facilities and special treatment for vulnerable groups,

The village government's efforts are reflected in providing fair treatment services to every member of the community without distinguishing any status behind their existence in the following ways:

- 1) Develop village community income, by trying to create jobs for the community.
- 2) Empowering the community in Kebonpedes village, by involving all elements of society to be able to become superior, competent and professional human resources.
- 3) Develop the potential of natural resources in the village of Kebonpedes while still paying attention to the preservation of the surrounding environment. One of the efforts to build the potential of natural resources that is being implemented by the Kebonpedes village government is in catfish farming activities in buckets and utilizing village-owned agricultural land.

#### **b. Development**

Development is a process of change with planned efforts made to improve the quality of life of the community and the region. Development is a function owned by the government in addition to its main function, namely providing services to the community. The development carried out by the Kebonpedes village government includes the construction of road infrastructure, the relocation of a temporary waste disposal site, and many others. The forms of development and improvement include the following:

- 1) Construction of Bale Post for Residents of Cigarung Village, Kebonpedes.
- 2) Construction of MSME Production Houses and Agricultural Products in Kebonpedes Village..
- 3) Construction of the Cimuncang-Riuh Tutut Road. The construction of a 400 meter long road with a width of 150 cm which was carried out on July 26, 2021. This development was carried out with the aim of providing convenience for the community to carry out mobility in their lives.
- 4) Construction of Cimuncang irrigation DAM. The construction of the DAM is carried out with an effort to provide irrigation in accordance with the standard for irrigation for rice fields given to farmers in Kebonpedes Village. This will make it easier for farmers to access rice fields.
- 5) Relocation of Waste Disposal

#### **c. Empowerment**

Empowerment of youth and Kebonpedes village community. This community empowerment can be done by trying to increase awareness or Awareness Raising, by seeking to enrich the concepts of participation development in the public decision-making process, encourage village government awareness to be able to optimally open up to community improvement and participation, and seek to encourage greater demand. for participation and accountability by increasing citizens' awareness of their needs and rights to participate in planning, budgeting and training processes.

The following is a form of empowerment that has been carried out by the Kebonpedes village government in an effort to improve the quality of life of the Kebonpedes village community:

- 1) Community empowerment, such as youth and people who fall into the category of unemployment or do not have a job, should actually be directed to a more productive sector of activity. The activity in question is to play a role in helping the village government by being active in youth organizations such as Karang Taruna. Joining as a member of Karang Taruna will help young people to be able to develop and learn to organize. The virtue of being organized is to be able to manage people, tools, goods, and finances and much

more. This will indirectly provide knowledge that is very useful because it will create young people who are more productive and useful for those around them.

2) The empowerment carried out by the Kebonpedes village government in addition to providing jobs, the government also tries to establish closeness with the community by encouraging mutual cooperation activities to clean up the surrounding environment.

### **Pushing Factors and Inhibiting Factors in the Process of Improving the Quality of Community Life in Kebonpedes Village:**

In the process of improving the quality of life of the community which will be closely related to the service process, development and empowerment of an area, it is necessary to have several factors that drive the goal of improving the quality of life of the community in the village of Kebonpedes, Sukabumi Regency to be achieved. So some of the driving factors are as follows:

- a) The commitment of the Kebonpedes Village Government. It is an aspiration for the Kebonpedes village government to be able to advance, improve, and improve the quality of life of its people.
- b) Natural Resources Potential of Kebonpedes Village. In seeking to improve the quality of life of the Kebonpedes village community, it is necessary to have the potential of supporting natural resources. This natural resource potential will provide development capital, as an effort to achieve community welfare. It would be better if the form of capital interaction between available natural resources and human resources could be two-way or reciprocal, where humans must be able to restore the natural capital used, so that its use will be long term.

Inhibiting Factors Improving the Quality of Community Life, namely:

- a) Human Resources. Human resources are the main inhibiting factor in the process of improving the quality of life of the people in the village of Kebonpedes, this is because there are still many human resources in the village of Kebonpedes who have the mindset that education is not the basis for improving the quality of their lives. Factors that lead to the emergence of unawareness of the importance of education for some residents of Kebonpedes village are due to economic barriers, as well as the idea that it is better to work than go to school. The quality of human resources will reflect the quality of management, as well as the organization in it, therefore challenges such as corruption, as well as various issues related to governance practices in government become serious obstacles.
- b) Budget Factor. The limited Village Fund Budget has hampered the process of improving the quality of life of the Kebonpedes village community
- c) Limited Private Support. The support of the private sector is very important, this is to overcome the limitations of funds, human resources belonging to the village of Kebonpedes. The private sector plays an important role as a collaborator in the process of improving the quality of life, by participating in providing capital, with reciprocal efforts in it. The limited private support experienced by Kebonpedes village is due to the fact that the process of cooperation between the village and the private sector is quite complicated, it requires a lot of regulations that are wanted by the private sector with the main goal of getting big profits. So that the process of cooperation between the village and the private sector will be difficult and not easy to realize. Support for cooperation between the private sector, or it could be stakeholders, has been fragmented with suspicion or distrust of each other, so that partnerships are difficult to occur.

### **Strategies for Improving the Quality of Life for the Village Community of Kebonpedes, Sukabumi Regency:**

Alternative strategies offered from the research results for the purpose of Improving the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community, Sukabumi Regency:

1. Utilizing the commitment of the village government's human resources to develop its territory by trying to collaborate with regional conditions. The large regional space provides business opportunities in various sectors in the form of cooperation. Cooperation between the village government and the community or the private sector through BUMDes, by taking advantage of opportunities in developing businesses in the village and taking advantage of the still high sense of community cooperation. This can be utilized by making an agro-tourism innovation.

2. Carry out routine monitoring and evaluation activities by the village government, in order to oversee the progress of efforts to improve the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community.
3. Conducting socialization by making an infographic that will facilitate the process of disseminating information in rural areas in Kebonpedes village.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research that has been carried out regarding the analysis of the Role of the Village Government in Efforts to Improve the Quality of Community Life in the Village of Kebonpedes, it is concluded that the role of the village government in improving the quality of life of the people in the village of Kebonpedes is carried out by analyzing the three roles of the government (1). Services, Efforts to meet basic human needs in carrying out state life, then the duties of the village government are (a). Ensure the security of the country from all possible external attacks (b). Maintain order by preventing fights (c). Ensuring the implementation of fair treatment to every citizen (d). Performing public works and providing services in fields that are impossible for non-government agencies to do (e). Make efforts to improve social welfare. (f). Implementing economic policies that benefit the wider community. With regard to aspect (2). Developments where the development carried out by the Kebonpedes village government includes the construction of road infrastructure, the relocation of a temporary waste disposal site, and many others. The developments carried out by the Kebonpedes village government include (a). Construction of Bale Post for Residents of Cigarung Village (b). Construction of MSME Production Houses and Agricultural Products in Kebonpedes Village. (c). Construction of the Cimuncang-Riuh Tutut Road (d). Construction of Cimuncang irrigation DAM, (e). Relocation of Waste Disposal on aspect (3).

Empowerment, where community empowerment such as youth and people who fall into the category of unemployment or do not have a job, is actually directed to a more productive sector of activity. The driving factors in the process of improving the quality of community life include: (a). The commitment of the Kebonpedes Village Government and the Potential of Natural Resources belonging to the Kebonpedes Village (b). Human Resources, limited budget factors, limited support from the private sector and non-strategic locations. Strategies for Efforts to Improve the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community, Sukabumi Regency where the commitment of the Kebonpedes village government is very high in an effort to improve the quality of community life, strategies that can be carried out, which have been analyzed by researchers, are (1). Utilizing the commitment of the village government's human resources to develop its territory by trying to collaborate with the existing state of the region, by creating an agro-tourism. (2). Carry out routine monitoring and evaluation activities by the village government, in order to oversee the progress of efforts to improve the Quality of Life of the Kebonpedes Village Community. (3). Conducting socialization by making an infographic that will facilitate the process of disseminating information in rural areas in Kebonpedes village.

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