

Building Community Participation in the Development of Warloka Pesisir Village as a Modern Fishing Village in West Manggarai

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Abstract

Community participation is essential in developing tourism villages because the potential of social and cultural diversity resources in the community is the primary driving force behind the activities in the tourism village. This research aims to analyze the stages and obstacles of community participation in the development of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. This research uses qualitative research with descriptive research type. Data were gathered using observation, interviews, focus group discussion impacts (FGDs), and documentation. The concept used to analyze the data is the concept of participation from Cohen and Uphoff. The results showed that based on the four types of participation, the Warloka Pesisir community has not yet reached an optimal level of participation in developing a tourism village. Participation in decision-making and benefit-taking shows that the community is passive in decision-making and tends only to follow the final decision. This has an impact on the community's lack of maximum benefits from the development of tourist villages. Some existing obstacles hinder participation and tourism development, so more attention must be paid to supporting community participation by updating infrastructure and developing skills with empowerment.

Keywords:

community participation; development; local community; tourism village

Abstrak

Partisipasi masyarakat merupakan aspek penting dalam pengembangan desa wisata karena potensi keragaman sosial dan budaya masyarakat merupakan pendorong utama kegiatan desa wisata. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk (1) menganalisis tahap partisipasi dan kendala masyarakat dalam pengembangan Desa Wisata Warloka Pesisir. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dengan tipe penelitian deskriptif. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi, wawancara, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), dan dokumentasi. Data dianalisis menggunakan konsep partisipasi dari Cohen dan Uphoff. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa berdasarkan keempat tahapan partisipasi, masyarakat Warloka Pesisir belum mencapai tingkat partisipasi yang optimal dalam mengembangkan desa wisata. Terutama partisipasi dalam pengambilan keputusan dan pengambilan manfaat, menunjukkan bahwa masyarakat pasif dalam pembuatan keputusan, masyarakat cenderung hanya mengikuti keputusan akhir. Hal tersebut berdampak pada kurang maksimalnya manfaat dari pengembangan desa wisata bagi masyarakat. Beberapa kendala yang ada menghambat partisipasi dan pengembangan wisata sehingga perlu dilakukan perhatian lebih untuk menunjang partisipasi masyarakat, dengan memperbaiki infrastruktur, pengembangan keterampilan dengan pemberdayaan.

Kata Kunci:

desa wisata; masyarakat lokal; partisipasi masyarakat; pengembangan



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Introduction

The presence of tourist villages is one of the trends in the tourism industry today. In recent years, tourism has not only been limited to urban areas but also includes many tourism developments in villages (Irsyad & Wijaya, 2022). Ministerial Decree No. 146 of 2023 concerning village funds, allocating village funds worth IDR 71 trillion to 75,259 villages in cities throughout Indonesia, shows the magnitude of the government's alignment to improve village development to realize community welfare. Various other support comes from external parties, including the 1 Village 1 Billion program, in which each village is empowered to develop its village according to the potential of the region, such as a tourist village (Anam, 2023). The amount of support from various parties invites many villages in Indonesia to make their villages tourist villages so that by 2023, there will be 4,674 tourist villages, an increase of 36.7 percent compared to the previous year (Prasetyo, 2023).

However, many of the existing tourist villages have stagnated and even stopped in the middle. This is supported by Marimin's research (2017) regarding the crucial problems that arise in the development of tourist villages, one of which is that tourist villages have the potential to stagnate. Ningsih & Wijaya (2023) revealed that, in reality, many tourist villages tend to stagnate and even fail. Ismawan (2023) stated that many village governments and tourism actors are trapped in the wrong understanding and tend to follow the trend of developing tourist villages. Communities build tourist destinations without carefully planning or exploring existing local potential. Tourist villages are sometimes only considered tourist destinations and are often only built at the beginning. This is a serious problem, with the risk that many tourist villages will eventually stagnate without proper handling efforts (Fajri D & Santoso, 2023; Prasetyo, 2024).

The fact that not a few tourist villages have stagnated indicates that there are still many things that need to be considered when developing a tourist village. Reindrawati (2021) revealed that operational and structural aspects of tourism village development are often overlooked. Operational constraints include a lack of access to information, discussion, and tourism knowledge, while structural constraints include a lack of qualified human resources, support, and inappropriate policies. Equally crucial to the sustainability of a tourism village is the process of planning, management, and support from internal and external parties (Yanes et al., 2019; Kultusari, 2020; Prakoso, et al., 2020; Matiku et al., 2021). For example, the tourist village in Kokolaka Village in Semarang has stagnated due to a lack of initiative, innovation, support, and stakeholder synergy (Putri, 2023). Fahrozi (2017) found that tourist villages that manage well will be able to overcome stagnation supported by renewal of management from actors (initiators), the existence of cooperation networks, financial assistance, and improving the quality of human resources (SDM) through empowerment.

Apart from some of the things that underlie the stagnation of tourist villages, several studies such as Permadi et al., (2018); Putri, (2020); Putri, (2020); Aulias (2021) state that the biggest challenge to the development of tourist villages comes from community participation itself. Lack of knowledge and awareness of tourism leads to low participation of local communities. For example, Ambengan Tourism Village shows that community participation is still in the low category, and the low quality of human resources influences the low participation. In addition, the community's development has different activities, so the focus is divided (Frasawi E, 2018). The situation is inversely proportional if the community participates directly. If the local community is included, it can encourage their awareness of tourism in any way, such as by showing local culture, which aims to attract tourists (Darmayanti, 2020). At the same time, the development of tourist villages that involve the community will have a more positive impact on local communities (Idziak et al., 2015; Winia et al., 2019; Pasanchay, 2021).

Concerning tourist villages, reported through the Badan Pemeriksaan Keuangan Nusa Tenggara Timur (BPK NTT) in 2022, the Regional Government seeks to maximize the development and expansion of tourism in the Labuan Bajo area. West Manggarai Regency accelerated tourism development by forming many tourist villages around the Labuan Bajo area (Idris, 2019). West Manggarai Regency, with Labuan Bajo as its capital, covers the mainland of western Flores Island and several small islands around it. West Manggarai Regency has advantages in tourism because it is famous for its rare ancient animals, namely Komodo dragons, exotic natural beauty, abundant marine wealth, and engaging local cultural heritage and impressive history (Jupir, 2013). The acceleration of tourism expansion on the islands around Labuan Bajo has formed new tourist areas, one of which is Warloka Pesisir Village in Komodo District, West Manggarai. The village, with a majority of fishermen in the population, has diverse and unique natural and cultural potential that can be developed as a tourist attraction.

However, the reality in the field shows that the developed tourist area in Warloka Pesisir Village has not moved significantly and tends to stagnate. Unstable tourist visits are one indicator of the lack of interest in the tourist area in Warloka Pesisir. This is related to the absence of proper management due to the lack of community understanding of tourism management, so people hesitate to participate. The community still lacks the knowledge and skills to participate directly in tourism activities. Coupled with the majority of people who still depend on the fisheries sector, almost all of the community prioritizes their activities or work, which causes limited time to participate in tourism village empowerment or activities related to village tourism planning.

Meanwhile, local communities are said to have a crucial role in advancing tourism villages because the potential resources, social and cultural diversity inherent in these communities are the main driving elements of tourism village activities. Previous research related to the role of participation in the management of tourist villages has been conducted. Dewi et al., (2013); Ibori (2013); Amerta (2017); Raharjana (2017) revealed that community participation is considered the most crucial thing in the process of developing tourist villages. Community involvement in developing tourism villages is an aspect that must be considered to strengthen the development of tourism villages and improve community welfare. Participation as a crucial aspect is also expressed by Palimbunga (2017); Abdilla & Prayogo (2020),

found that people who are involved in participating directly in the process of developing a tourist village will utilize the knowledge, culture and local resources of the village, to improve welfare.

This research aims to analyze community participation in developing a tourist village using the concept of community participation in an effort to make Warloka Pesisir Village a tourist village as well as a modern fishing village, to improve the welfare of the local community. This issue needs further attention related to community involvement in the development of tourist villages that often experience stagnation in the process. The findings expand the existing concept of tourism village development by showing how community involvement can influence the dynamics of tourism village development. This research is expected to provide broader insights so that it can be a reference for further studies on participation-based village development, especially in coastal areas.

Methods

This research is descriptive research using a qualitative approach. This type of research attempts to describe and explain the object of research in detail (Sugiyono, 2016). The research was conducted in Warloka Pesisir Village, Komodo District, West Manggarai Regency. Warloka Pesisir Village is a fishing village that still maintains its culture and simple local activities. Various natural potentials are presented in the small village of Warloka Pesisir. Research data collection was conducted in stages starting in June-July 2022 and updated online in 2023 and early 2024. The research subjects consisted of parties directly or indirectly involved in the development process of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village, including Village Officials; Village delegate; *Kelompok Sadar Wisata* (Pokdarwis); Warloka Pesisir Village Local Community; and Stakeholders.

The data collection technique in this study used four methods. First, through observation, in the form of observing the activities of the research subjects by the research topic, such as the community's daily activities, making typical Warloka products, cooperation activities, and managing accommodation or homestay. Second, interviews. Structured interviews were conducted with the main informant, namely the head of the *Kelompok Sadar Wisata* (Pokdarwis) related to tourism development in Warloka Pesisir Village, as well as informal interviews with villagers as supporting informants related to responses and concrete forms of participation in tourism development in the village. Third, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with the village community, Pokdarwis, and stakeholders. This FGD is a sharing session between Pokdarwis, local communities, and stakeholders, discussing tourism village management such as homestays, tour package packaging, and souvenir products. Fourth, documentation to support research data related to tourism village development and community participation.

The four stages of data analysis are data collection during the research process. First, data reduction by summarizing, sorting, and focusing on important things according to the topic of discussion. The second is data display, presenting various types of images or schemes, networks, linkages of activities, and tables that can help assemble information. The last is the drawing of conclusions, which occurs during data collection from the beginning to the previous data collection process.

Result and Discussion

Profile of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village

Warloka Pesisir Village is a fishing village located in Komodo Sub-district, West Manggarai Regency, with an area of 3,829 km². Warloka Pesisir has 251 households with 1,021 people. The location of Warloka Pesisir Village with Labuan Bajo City is approximately 30 km or takes 1 to 1.5 hours (sea route). The environmental condition of Warloka Pesisir Village is directly adjacent to the shoreline and has one dock as access to the village. Warloka Pesisir Village is also surrounded by savanna hills typical of Flores Island. The location of this tourist village has the advantage of being located opposite the main destination of Labuan Bajo, namely Rinca Island or Komodo Island.



Picture 1. Warloka Pesisir Village

Source: Researcher documentation, 2022

In 2019, a program was initiated by the *Dinas Kebudayaan dan Pariwisata* (Disbudpar), Labuan Bajo, to establish 55 tourist villages to encourage economic acceleration in West Manggarai Regency (Fardaniah, 2019). Warloka Pesisir Village is one of them. However, the program experienced obstacles, one of which was due to limited funds. On the other hand, the Warloka community did not seem to back down due to the delay of the tourism village program. Some people remained enthusiastic and began to take the initiative to develop Warloka Village as a tourist village, starting with forming a management group, namely the *Kelompok Sadar Wisata (Pokdarwis)*.

Warloka Village, located along the coast, offers an extraordinary natural charm with a stunning stretch of exotic hills that are no less beautiful than Padar Island in Labuan Bajo. Its stunning natural beauty is the main attraction for visitors looking for an authentic nature adventure. Warloka's charm is not only limited to its natural beauty. The village also offers an impressive historical tour with megalithic stone relics that the locals believe to be a legacy from their ancestors. The site not only captivates visitors with its natural beauty but also provides an opportunity to explore and understand the rich history and culture of the region.

In addition, the socio-cultural conditions of the Warloka Pesisir Village community are famous for their warmth and tolerance. Warloka Pesisir Village is a Muslim-majority village among the neighboring towns, which are predominantly Christian, although they can live side by side. In addition, the simple life of the community has been inherent in the village, which is inseparable from the limited access they have had over the years. The similarity of backgrounds and a sense of fate have formed their bond with the community, helping each other, and cooperating has become part of their lives. This is illustrated by the *lele uta* activity

which is a cooperation activity of the Warloka Pesisir community during the *musim bagan*, all mothers join in drying the fish until weighing it to the collectors.



Picture 2. *Lele Uta* the community cooperation in Warloka Pesisir
Source: *Pokdarwis* Documentation, 2024

This is related to the tourism in Warloka Pesisir Village, which is very close to the local community. The villagers still maintain the local wisdom of their village naturally. Warloka Village presents an authentic atmosphere, reflecting coastal rural life rich in culture, economy, and local traditions, one of which is the *Pasar Amba*, which still uses the barter system. Another point of interest is the architecture of the houses, which are built on stilts to avoid water during high tide. Warloka Village has great potential to be developed as a tourist destination with new experiences. Various tourism components, such as the experience of mingling with coastal communities, local wisdom, culinary, and other services, can be developed to attract visitors.



Picture 3. *Pasar Amba* (Barter Market)
Source: Researcher documentation, 2022

Participation of Warloka Pesisir Village Community in the Tourism Village Development Process

Warloka Pesisir Village is a new tourism village currently being developed as a community-based tourism village. Warloka Pesisir offers the natural beauty of the sea, exotic hills, and historical tourism. In addition to its natural attractions, Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village presents the local wisdom and culture of coastal communities as an integral part of the tourism experience. The various activities that occur within the village become unique characteristics offered to visitors. Developing a community-based tourism village in Warloka Pesisir certainly makes the local community play an important role in the successful development of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village.

This bab discusses community participation in Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. To get an overview of participation in the development of tourism villages

based on community participation, it will be explained through 4 stages of participation according to Cohen and Uphoff (1980), namely (1) Participation in Decision Making; (2) Participation in Implementation; (3) Participation in Benefits; (4) Participation in Evaluation.

Participation In Decision-Making

According to Cohen and Uphoff, participation refers to the active involvement of the community in the decision-making process regarding what actions to take and how to implement them (Cohen & Uphoff, 1980 as cited in Nurbaiti, 2017). Participation in this decision-making stage aims to prevent misunderstandings about the nature of the problem and the proposed strategy.

The decision-making process related to managing tourism areas in Warloka Pesisir Village has been implemented, although it is not routine and planned. Participation is still carried out by only part of the community. Village development and policy management are carried out through internal meetings initiated by the *Pokdarwis*. *Pokdarwis* actively contributes ideas that become the basis for decision-making in every meeting. Furthermore, after a series of internal discussions, the results of the internal meetings are conveyed to the community to reach an agreement regarding the development of the tourism village and the local community. This shows that *Pokdarwis* always invites the community to participate in decision-making to ensure that decisions reflect the interests and aspirations of all stakeholders involved. As expressed by the Village Head. He said that:

"Planning, such as making decisions for developing tourist villages here, has not been routine. From *Pokdarwis* it usually holds meetings to make planning decisions for the development of tourist villages with village officials, then forwarded to the community, but there are still few people here who want to participate in discussions." (Interview July 2, 2022).

Then, community participation in decision-making during deliberations is still classified as passive. This is because the people of Warloka Pesisir Village focus on their primary job as fishermen; almost all of the people of Warloka Pesisir work as fishermen so if there is free time besides working, people prefer to be at home and rest. On the other hand, the community still feels they do not understand tourism, so they tend to follow. These things result in the community being passive and leaving it to the *Pokdarwis*.

Community involvement in the decision-making process is still limited to just following. The community is less active in the deliberation forum. The low education level of the Warloka Pesisir community, where most of the population only completed education up to junior high school level, causes them to lack confidence to be involved in the decision-making process. Limitations in education lead to a lack of awareness of utilizing the potential owned by the community. The community has not fully realized the importance of their participation in decision-making related to the development of tourism villages. A lack of understanding of the benefits gained from participation can inhibit their interest and involvement.

In addition, the homogeneity of the community's occupations and time constraints also prevented most of the community from actively participating in the decision-making process. The village's location in the coastal area is the main reason the majority of the community depends on the same type of work, namely the fisheries sector. It cannot be denied that the fisheries sector is a vulnerable economic

sector, which can lead to high economic dependence in the community (Indraswari, 2023). This dependency significantly affects the participation of the Warloka Pesisir community in terms of risk-taking or engagement in other activities outside of their primary job. The community has been tied to their jobs for many years, causing the community's motivation to develop the tourism village to be reduced.

Community participation in the decision-making stage as a whole is still relatively low. Only some people want and are involved in this stage and the rest follow the decision. At the decision-making stage, *Pokdarwis* have the most active role because of their responsibility as the bearer and manager of the tourism village. Participation in the decision-making process has the impression that it only comes from one party, namely the *Pokdarwis*. Meanwhile, community involvement in the decision-making process is a crucial aspect of the success of a tourism village (Rismanita & Pradana, 2022). Community participation in decision-making allows for a better understanding of the needs and aspirations of the local community.

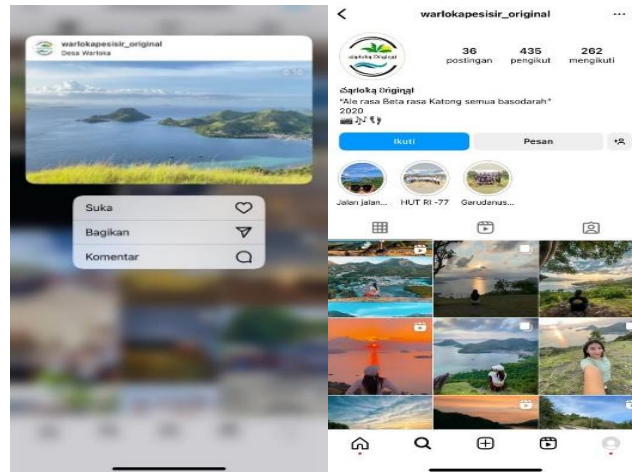
Participation in Implementation

Cohen and Uphoff argue that participation is the involvement of the community in the implementation of programs and decisions that have been determined through material contributions and forms of action (Soetomo, 2008). This is important for the success of tourism development. Participation in the implementation is divided into three indicators: first, in the form of donations of ideas; second, donations of funds; and third, donations of labor.

The first indicator is the contribution of ideas seen from the community's involvement in providing ideas for developing Warloka Pesisir tourism village. Community contributions to give ideas for the development of tourist villages are carried out by collaboration between *Pokdarwis* and stakeholder ideas. A statement from the *Pokdarwis* youth said:

"From the empowerment that the community gets, the community is directed to create a social media platform, in the form of a photo or video content so that it can attract tourists"

Supporting this, the *Pokdarwis* have implemented ideas related to social media promotion to disseminate information about Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. A social media platform, such as Instagram, contains photos of tourist destinations and activities expected to attract visitors. In addition, promotion is not only done through the media. The community often promotes their tourist village directly or orally. For example, when they are working in the form of boat accommodation services for Labuan Bajo destinations, they will offer directly to come to travel in the Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. It is not uncommon for foreign tourists to make Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village as a stopover before continuing the tour because of the direct invitation of the Warloka Pesisir community, which the Warloka Pesisir community works a lot in ship accommodation services, making it easier for them to be able to promote their tourist village directly.



Picture 3. Instagram account Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village

Not only that, through the contribution of ideas from stakeholders, which were then implemented by the community, it was also felt by the community as well as *UMKM* players (micro, small, and medium enterprises) in Warloka Pesisir Village, who stated that the empowerment of stakeholders, or visits to the village, had opened many people's minds so that it helped village tourism activities. The application of ideas by the community can be seen in the making of typical souvenirs of Warloka Pesisir Village, where initially which was initially initiated by stakeholders, then developed creatively and independently by the community to produce selling products that by the potential of the village.



Image 4. Warloka Pesisir Souvenir

To realize optimal tourism village management, a point of view from the community is needed to add to the perfection of the tourism village. So, the community participation provided in the form of ideas/thought contributions is good, as seen from the community's collaboration between stakeholder ideas and application. Ideas or thoughts are usually obtained from empowerment activities and then redeveloped by the management and community of the Warloka Pesisir Village. So, to participate in providing ideas or thoughts, the community needs to hold discussions with local people to achieve creative ideas or thoughts for the management of tourist villages in the future.

Furthermore, the third indicator of participation in the implementation stage is realized in the form of funds or material contributions. It can be seen that in terms of operational funds for tourism village development, the community needs to be more

involved. Neither the *Pokdarwis* nor the village has proposed or asked the community for dues or donations to meet the needs of developing the Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. Although monetary contributions from the community have yet to be seen, other assistance, such as the provision of tools for establishing signposts, tracking facilities, community service activities to clean the environment, making photo spots, and painting, is done voluntarily by the community. In addition, the community's contribution in providing consumption to the builder's managers or people working at that time, such as snacks, food, and drinks, is also visible. The third indicator of participation in the implementation stage is realized through action or contribution in the form of voluntary labor provided by the community. In this case, activities that are usually carried out are community service to clean the village environment in tourist areas, cleaning the beach, and cooperation in other matters, which shows that the surrounding community fully supports the management of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village as found in the picture below when the community worked together to clean the village.



Picture 5. The community cooperation in Warloka Pesisir (Weekly clean-up)
Source: *Pokdarwis* documentation, 2023

The three indicators contained in the implementation stage of the management of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village show that involvement or participation in the indicators of the form of action, material contribution, and contribution of ideas is already visible and quite good. However, in its sustainability, community activeness still needs to be maintained and constantly monitored so that it is maintained. The three indicators in the implementation stage are a form of community support in managing tourist villages. The community has a voluntary sense of what they provide to support the development of the Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village, both thoughts and energy.

Participation in Benefits

Cohen and Uphoff in Nurbaiti and Bambang (2017) argue that the utilization of results in participation is the participation of the community in enjoying the benefits of development before and after the existence of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. The community's contribution in the form of thoughts, funds, and labor spent must be balanced with the benefits of money that will be obtained by the villagers involved, starting from the economic, social, and environmental aspects.

The community, especially the *Pokdarwis*, consciously knows and hopes to benefit from the development of tourism villages. However, until now, the benefits for the community, especially the economy, have not seen significant changes. Based on research in the field shows that Warloka Tourism Village is still in the developing phase, where visitors are not necessarily there, so the benefits are not real. This means that the community has yet to feel the economic improvement of the Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village. As conveyed by informants who work as fishermen

"I don't think the community has felt the maximum impact yet. Because the facilities in our village may also be lacking, so there are still few enthusiasts. There are only a few people visiting."

Given that the tourist village in Warloka Pesisir is still developing, it can be seen that the existence of a tourist village has yet to significantly influence the economic development of both the town and the community. Visitors still need to be more stable, and the lack of optimal management of tourist villages causes the benefits obtained to be less than optimal.

Even so, compared to before the establishment of tourism villages, village communities are now much more capable of utilizing local potential opportunities. Some communities are exploring offering a variety of specialty products, such as local snacks and typical village food, not stopping there; the community has also begun to improve their homes to meet the standards of homestays or temporary stopovers. Initially, the majority of the community only depended on the fisheries sector for their economy, but along with the development of tourism villages, people are now starting to be aware of tourism, which encourages them to open new opportunities from the tourism side, such as tour guides, providing accommodation services, or making tour packages.

Participation in Evaluation

Cohen and Uphoff state that the evaluation of participation is feedback in the form of input as an effort to improve implementation in the future (Nurbaiti & Bambang, 2017). Evaluation in the management of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village is intended to assess the extent of management that has been carried out and the basis for designing a sustainable and optimal tourism village development strategy. This aligns with the findings of Tamianingsih & Eprilianto (2022), who emphasize the importance of the monitoring and evaluation stage of tourism development in identifying obstacles that may arise to avoid fraud that several parties may commit.

This research found that community participation in the evaluation stage is manifested in providing feedback on the implementation of activities, both in the form of criticism and suggestions to improve the future tourist village's progress. There are two types of evaluation conducted in Warloka Pesisir Village in developing a Tourism Village: non-formal and formal. Non-formal evaluation is conducted unscheduled and erratically, often only by conducting comparative studies to other tourist villages. If there is no new program to be implemented in the village, then evaluation is not carried out.

Furthermore, formal evaluation is conducted through internal meetings and village deliberations. So, internal meetings are conducted conditionally or according to the situation. If visitors are coming, an evaluation meeting will be held afterward. This means that evaluation meetings are only held after there are visitors; apart from that, there are usually only ordinary discussions.

The participation of the village community in the evaluation stage of the development of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village shows that the space for assessment still needs to be optimal. Evaluation activities are carried out only after visitors have provided feedback on managing tourist villages. The evaluation should be carried out under several conditions, considering that Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village, whose status is still a developing tourism village, should be able to conduct evaluations more often to assess the progress of the tourism village.

In addition, evaluation is also given to the community, which includes their awareness of monitoring and protecting resources in the Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village environment. As stated by the community, community awareness in Warloka Pesisir Village is good. In addition to protecting the environment and existing facilities, *Pokdarwis* and the community automatically protect the village area. For example, no one throws garbage on the beach or around the pier. In addition, when tourists come, the community always reminds them of the culture and manners of our community.

Analysis of Pesisir Warloka Community Participation in Tourism Village Development

Community participation significantly impacts the development and success of tourist villages (Supartini, 2015; Nabila, 2016). When the community is actively involved in various aspects of the development and management of a tourist village, it improves the quality and sustainability of the tourist village. Based on the four stages of community participation in Warloka Pesisir, it has yet to run optimally. It can be seen that the community still needs more involvement in the decision-making process. Only some of the Warloka Pesisir community consciously and voluntarily follow the implementation stage and the evaluation process that needs to be organized.

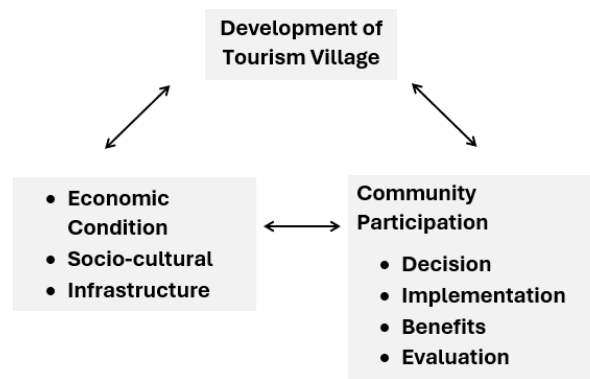


Chart 1. Development components of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village
Source: Primary data, 2024

The non-fulfillment of these stages has led to a lack of benefits for the local community from tourism villages and the insignificant development of tourism villages. Lack of community awareness, lack of knowledge about tourism potential, homogeneous occupations, and low levels of education significantly influence community involvement in developing tourism villages. Some local communities have yet to fully realize the economic and social value of tourism village development, resulting in a lack of support and participation from them. In addition,

the lack of knowledge about the tourism industry and how to manage it properly also hinders the progress of Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village.

To achieve active community participation in developing a tourist village in Warloka Pesisir, several things must be given more attention. First, efforts are needed to increase community involvement in the decision-making process. This can be done through organizing meetings and open discussion forums that involve residents, where their ideas and aspirations are listened to and considered in planning and decision-making related to tourism village development..

Secondly, in the participation implementation, tourism village managers must involve the community directly in various development and maintenance activities. This will give the community a greater sense of ownership and improve the quality of the results as they have direct knowledge and interest in the process. There is also a need to empower the community to improve their skills. By providing appropriate training and education, tourist village managers can help increase the capacity of the community in various fields, not sticking to homogeneous occupations. Through this empowerment, the community will not only have greater involvement in the process of tourism village development but will also become more independent and able to play a more active role in promoting and managing their tourism destination. Thus, developing tourism villages can become more sustainable and benefit the entire local community more significantly.

Third, there needs to be an effort to clarify the benefits that can be obtained by the community from the existence of tourist villages. This can be done through counseling and information campaigns that highlight the economic, social, and cultural potential that can be generated by the development of tourist villages, as well as how active community participation can increase these benefits. The background of people who have homogeneous jobs needs real proof of the federation of tourist villages, where the community will be more aware of the risks and opportunities of the development of tourist villages.

Lastly, it is essential to establish and clarify an open and transparent evaluation mechanism where the community can regularly follow the development of the tourism village and provide input and feedback on its performance and progress. By doing so, the community will feel more involved and actively advance the tourism village, which will ultimately promote the success and sustainability of tourism development in Warloka Pesisir.

Constraints in Tourism Village Management and Development

Based on the situation in Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village, limited access to basic needs and the lack of supporting infrastructure significantly impact community involvement in developing the tourism village. Restricted access and not yet maximized infrastructure are obstacles that affect the process of creating a tourist village because these obstacles can reduce the motivation and ability of the community to be actively involved in building a tourist village. In addition to impacting the level of community participation, access limitations also affect the sustainability of tourist villages. Tourism villages that are difficult to access or need better infrastructure will have difficulty attracting tourists or providing a satisfying experience for those who visit, so the development of tourism villages will not run significantly.



Picture 6. The condition of the dock in Warloka Pesisir Village

Source: Researcher documentation, 2022

The infrastructure constraints faced by Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village illustrate the real challenges many tourist areas face in Indonesia. Poor or inadequate infrastructure not only disrupts the tourist experience but also hinders local economic growth and negatively impacts the well-being of local communities. This issue suggests that developing and maintaining essential infrastructure should be a top priority for governments and managers when creating and developing tourist villages.

In order to overcome the infrastructure constraints faced by Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village, an immediate and targeted strategy is needed. The local government and relevant parties should prioritize improving and maintaining essential infrastructure such as roads, electricity, and clean water systems. If required, this can be done through sufficient budget allocation and cooperation with external parties. In addition, training and development programs can also be implemented to increase local capacity in infrastructure management and maintenance. Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village hopes to overcome infrastructure constraints and develop into a more attractive and sustainable tourism destination with these measures.

Conclusion

Participation is the most instrumental aspect of community-based tourism village development. Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village makes community participation the principal capital because of their form of tourism that offers experiential tourism mingled with the routine of the coastal community. The four stages of community participation have not yet run better in the development process. Warloka Pesisir Tourism Village has been unable to involve the community in every stage, especially participation in decision-making and benefit-taking. The community tends to be passive in the decision-making process, where they are more inclined to follow the decisions made by related parties without any active contribution from them in decision-making. Community participation is limited due to limited knowledge, skills, and poor infrastructure. They are constantly involving the community in every process of tourism village development in Warloka Pesisir to achieve active community participation. Limitations in developing tourist villages need more attention to support community participation by improving and updating infrastructure and developing skills through empowerment activities.

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