

Accountability, Transparency, and Participation in Village Fund Management

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to examine whether there is a relationship between the principles of accountability, transparency, and participation with the management of village funds in Natar District, South Lampung Regency. This study looked at the extent to which villages apply the principles of Good Governance in managing village funds in running village government. This is by enacting Law no. 6 of 2014 concerning the Financial Management of Village Funds. The population in this study was the villages of Natar District, South Lampung Regency. The analysis method uses multiple linear regression with SPSS Version 25. Based on the results of hypothesis testing using the Pearson correlation test using SPSS v25 software, only one hypothesis is supported, namely the accountability variable. At the same time, the other two hypotheses, namely, the variables of transparency and participation, are not supported. The management of village funds in villages in Natar District, South Lampung Regency is good enough to apply the principles and rules regarding accountability. However, the principles of transparency and participation in the management of village funds are still not maximally implemented.

INTRODUCTION

Since the enactment of Law no. 6 of 2014 concerning villages, the central government has authorized the villages to regulate and develop their regions by utilizing natural and human resources. Based on the rule of law and granting such authority, the village government was formed as the party responsible for managing village resources and implementing village activities to empower the village.

Based on this law, the village is the smallest part of the government administration system. Through the village, the central government is able to implement its policies without having to go directly to the field and simply by delegating authority to the provincial government and ultimately to the village government. The village is part of the government system in direct contact with the community. Every policy implementation issued by the central government and local government must go through the village government, which results in the

participation of the village government, significantly determining the success of the policy.

Law No. 6 of 2014 also regulates village administration. Village arrangement aims to realize the effectiveness of village governance, accelerate the improvement of the welfare of rural communities, accelerate the progress of the quality of public services, improve the quality of village governance, and improve village competitiveness. Good Governance is a concept proposed to enhance the performance of village government through supervision or monitoring of management performance and ensuring management accountability for the management of village funds based on a regulatory framework. Good Governance is proposed to achieve more transparent village management for all interests, including the central government, local government, village government, and village communities. If this concept is implemented correctly, the transparency of village government management will continue to improve. It is hoped that economic growth will continue to increase and enhance the community's welfare (Prasojo and Kurniawan, 2008).

According to Mardiasmo (1999), Understanding Good Governance is a concept-oriented approach to developing the public sector by good governance. Furthermore, according to the World Bank quoted by Wahab (2002), good governance is a concept in implementing solid and responsible development management in line with democracy and an efficient market, avoiding misallocations and scarce investments and preventing corruption both politically and administratively, carry out budgetary discipline and create legal and political frameworks for the growth of entrepreneurial activities. In addition, the world bank also synchronizes Good Governance as a synergistic and constructive relationship between the state, sector, and society (Effendi, 1996).

Based on the understanding of Good Governance by Mardiasmo and the world bank, which is in line with the demands for reform related to the state apparatus, including the regions, is the need to realize state administration that can support the smooth and integrated implementation of tasks. Functions of governance and development, thus demanding the use of good governance as governance. Which are both relevant and related to each other. Tangkilisan (2005) stated that the basic idea is that the state is a formal and constitutional legal institution that administers government functions as regulators and agents of change. In the implementation of good governance related to control and control, namely the control of a good government so that the method and use of the technique achieve the results desired by the shareholders.

The three pillars of essential elements that are interrelated in realizing good governance (Osborne and Geabler, 1992, OECD and World Bank, 2000, LAN and BPKP, 2006 Zeyn, 2011) are

1. Transparency, namely openness in government, environmental, economic, and social management.
2. Participation, namely the implementation of democratic decision-making and recognition of human rights, freedom of the press, and expressing public opinion/aspiration.
3. Accountability, namely the obligation to report and answer from those entrusted with the mandate to account for success or failure to the trustee until the person giving the order is satisfied. If it is not available or does not reach the point of satisfaction, it can be subject to sanctions.
4. In Ni Wayan Rustiarini's research (2016) on good governance in managing village funds, it is concluded that the implementation of village fund management in Bali Province can be said to be normatively by the mechanism regulated in Law No. 6 of 2004 on Villages and Government Regulation No. 60 of 2014 Village Funds Sourced from the State Revenue and Expenditure Budget.

When related to the meaning and nature of natural management, there are still some weaknesses that have the potential to lead to undirected village development. Planning and budgeting have also not been fully adapted to the community's needs, potentially making village development ineffective, efficient, and economical.

Various villages try to apply the principles of good governance, including villages in Natar District, South Lampung. Villages in Natar District include the villages of Bandar Rejo, Banjar Negeri, Branti Raya, Bumi Sari, Candi Mas, Haduyang, Hajimena, Krawang Sari, Mandah, Merak Inner, Muara Putih, Natar, Negara Ratu, Pancasila, Summons, Purwosari, Rejo Sari, Rulung herok, Rulung Raya, Sidosari, Sukapeace, and Tanjung Sari. Based on the above background, the problem of this research is how good governance in village financial management faces the enactment of Law no. 6 of 2014 and what obstacles were encountered in the implementation of village financial management.

LITERATURE REVIEW

State of the art is to analyze previous research that has been done, using concepts that are in line with almost the same as current research. Previous research in a study can contribute to developing science. Therefore, in this study, several previous studies are needed to collect literacy that can enrich references in conducting this

research. The literature used is themed "good governance" and "Village Fund Management" in its role in maintaining the company's image, which is expected to help this research.

Table 1. *State Of The Art*

No	Research	Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	Research result
1.	Good Governance in Village Fund Management Ni Wayan Rustiarini 2016	Village fund management	<i>Good Governance</i>	The implementation of village fund management is by good governance principles.
2.	Good Governance Village Financial Management Approaching the Enforcement of Law No. 6 the Year 2014 Titiek Puji Astuti and Yulianto, 2015.	Village fund management	<i>Good Governance</i>	In the elaboration of the Village Law, one of the fundamental instruments is the allocation of village funds sourced from the APBN, as the embodiment of the village development paradigm, which gives the village full authority in building the village community's welfare.
3.	Application of Good Governance Principles in Governance of Triharjo Village, Sleman District, Sleman Regency Anas Heriyanto 2015	<i>Good Governance</i>	Village Governance	The efforts of the Triharjo Village Government to overcome obstacles to the application of good governance principles in Triharjo Village governance are increasing the capacity of village officials through continuous education and training and the establishment of BUMDes (Village Owned Enterprises).

Village Fund Accountability and Management

Accountability is the obligation to provide accountability or answer and explain the performance and actions of a legal entity leading an organization to parties who have the right or authority to ask for information or accountability. In implementing accountability within government agencies, the following principles need to be considered:

1. There must be a commitment from the leadership and all agency staff to manage the implementation of the mission so that it is accountable.
2. It must be a system that can guarantee the use of resources consistent with the prevailing laws and regulations.
3. Must be able to show the level of achievement of the goals and objectives that have been set.
4. Must be oriented towards achieving the vision and mission and the results and benefits obtained.
5. Must be honest, objective, transparent, and innovative as a catalyst for change in the management of government agencies in the form of updating methods and techniques for measuring performance and compiling accountability reports (LAN and BPKP 2000).

Based on this description, the proposed hypothesis is:

H1: There is a relationship between accountability and the management of village funds.

Transparency and Management of Village Funds

Transparency is the existence of policies that are open to supervision. What is meant by information is information about every aspect of government policy that the public can reach. Information disclosure results in healthy, tolerant political competition, and procedures are based on general preferences (Bappenas, 2003). The principles of transparency can be measured through several indicators such as the following:

1. Mechanisms guarantee the system of openness and standardization of all public service processes.
2. Mechanisms that facilitate public inquiries about various policies and public services, and processes within the public sector.
3. Mechanisms that facilitate reporting and dissemination of information and deviations from the actions of public officials in serving activities (Bappenas, 2003).

Based on this description, the proposed hypothesis is:

H2: There is a relationship between transparency and the management of village funds.

Village Fund Participation and Management

According to LAN and BPKP (2000), participation means that every citizen has a voice in decision-making, either directly or through the intermediation of legitimate institutions that represent their interests. This participation is built based on freedom of association and speech and constructive participation. In the Regulation of the *Peraturan Menteri Dalam Negeri* (Permendagri) or the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 37 of 2007 concerning Village Financial Management, participation uses the words participatory, namely the active participation and involvement of the community in the development process. Community participation in determining public policies is a driving force to accelerate the fulfillment of the accountability principle of village government administrators. In budgeting, community participation is essential to prevent deviant policies. The principles and indicators of community participation in budgeting, according to Sulistionidan Hendriadi (2004) in Taufik (2013), include the following:

1. There is access to active public participation in program formulation and budget decision-making.
2. The existence of regulations that provide a place of control by independent institutions and the community, both individually and institutionally, as media checks and balances.
3. The local government has a proactive attitude to encourage citizen participation in the budgeting process. This is due to the short gap between public awareness on how to participate effectively and the aspiration to realize an aspirational APBD.

Based on this description, the proposed hypothesis is:

H3: There is a relationship between participation and the management of village funds.

METHODS

The research method used in this study is qualitative. This study analyzes accountability, transparency, and participation in village fund management in Natar District, South Lampung Regency. This research belongs to the type of descriptive research. According to Suryabrata (2012), a descriptive study aims to make a systematic, factual, and accurate description of the facts and characteristics of a particular population or area.

According to Creswell in Tresiana (2013), the focus is the central concept discussed in scientific research. The guide may emerge from a literature review, be suggested by a colleague, researcher, or developed through experience. Meanwhile, Spradley in Sugiyono (2009) states that A focus refers to a single cultural

domain or a few related domains means that the focus is a single domain or several related domains of social situations. In qualitative research, the determination of stress in the proposal is based more on the novelty of information obtained from social problems. From this explanation, it can be said that the research focus is significant because the focus of this research is a form of research limitation to facilitate researchers in carrying out research. The principle of the problem is derived from the formulation of the research problem, so the focus of this research is:

Accountability of village officials in the implementation of village fund management in Natar District, South Lampung, which is measured through five indicators, namely:

- a) Law and justice
The allocation of village funds is carried out by applicable laws or policies and is carried out honestly to avoid abuse of authority.
- b) Managerial
Village officials are responsible for the implementation of village fund allocations that are managed effectively and efficiently
- c) Program
Accountability for programs created and implemented related to implementing village fund allocations based on existing policies.
- d) Policy
Accountability for policies taken in managing the allocation of available village funds by considering the good and bad impacts in the future.
- e) Financial
Accountability for using village fund allocation funds to prevent misuse of funds.

Transparency of village officials in the implementation of village fund management in Natar District, South Lampung, which is measured through four indicators, namely:

- a) Openness in essential meetings where the community participates in giving their opinions.
- b) Disclosure of information related to documents that need to be known by the public.
- c) Openness of procedures (decision making or planning procedures)
- d) Openness to accept community participation.

Participation of village officials in the implementation of village fund management in Natar District, South Lampung, which is measured through four indicators:

- a) Community participation in decision-making. This participation is mainly related to determining alternatives with the community regarding ideas or ideas that concern common interests. Involvement in decision-making includes contributing ideas or thoughts, attending meetings discussions, and responding to or rejecting the programs offered.
- b) Participation in implementation includes mobilizing financial resources, administrative activities, coordination, and program elaboration. Participation in the performance is a continuation of the plans that have been initiated previously, both related to planning, implementation, and goals.
- c) Participation in taking benefits cannot be separated from the implementation results that have been achieved both in terms of quality and quantity. In terms of quality, it can be seen from the output, while in terms of amount, it can be seen from the percentage of program success.
- d) Participation in evaluation
Participation in this evaluation is related to implementing the previously planned program. Participation in this evaluation aims to determine the achievement of the previously planned program.

The location taken in this study was determined purposively. A research location is where researchers research to see phenomena or events from the object being studied to obtain accurate research data. Considering the above and limiting the analysis, this research will be conducted in a village located in Natar District, South Lampung. The allocation of village funds is given to increase village potential. The existing village potential must be balanced with village officials who can manage the village's potential and can be accounted for. This prompted researchers to be interested in choosing a location in Natar District, South Lampung, as a research location to determine and analyze the accountability, transparency, and participation of village officials in managing village funds.

This study uses a purposive sampling technique, taking informants not randomly but through considerations and criteria. Villages in Natar District include the villages of Bandar Rejo, Banjar Negeri, Branti Raya, Bumi Sari, Candi Mas, Haduyang, Hajimena, Krawang Sari, Mandah, Merak Inner, Muara Putih, Natar, Negara Ratu, Pancasila, Summons, Purwosari, Rejo Sari, Rulung herok, Rulung Raya, Sidosari, Sukapeace, and the village of Tanjung Sari. Based on these provisions, the research informants in this study are:

Table 2. Informants related to the management of village fund allocations in Natar District

No	Informant
1	Headman
2	Village secretary
3	Head of Financial Affairs
4	Head of Government Section
5	Village Consultative Agency
6	Villagers
7	Head of Natar District, South Lampung

Mentioned in Arikunto's (2006) questionnaires are several questions used to obtain information from respondents regarding their reports. The questions used in this study are structured. Structured questions aim that the answers given by respondents can be limited; it is intended that researchers obtain information in the form of written answers regarding the required information in research from respondents. The questionnaire contains a list of questions regarding transparency and accountability in the management of village funds by the implementing team, where the questions start from the planning, implementation, monitoring, and accountability stages.

The data analysis method used in this research is using descriptive statistics. Those are transforming research data in tabulated form to be easy to understand and interpret (Indriantoro & Supomo, 2014).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

There were 60 questionnaires distributed by researchers for ten villages in Natar District. Of the total questionnaires that have been distributed, 41 questionnaires that have been filled out and returned and that meet the criteria can be processed as many as 32 questionnaires with a response rate of 78.05%. Therefore, the amount of data that can be processed and analyzed is 32 questionnaires. The calculation of the distribution of the questionnaire and its rate of return can be seen in the table below:

Table 4.1. Percentage of Questionnaire Delivery and Returns

No.	Description	Total	Percentage
1.	Shared Questionnaire	60	100%
2.	Returning Questionnaire	41	68,33%
3.	Questionnaires that do not meet the criteria	9	21,95%
4.	Questionnaires that meet the criteria	32	78,05%

Village Fund Accountability and Management

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- a) There must be a commitment from the leadership and all agency staff to manage the implementation of the mission so that it is accountable.
- b) Must be a system that can guarantee the use of resources consistent with the prevailing laws and regulations.
- c) Must be able to show the level of achievement of the goals and objectives that have been set.
- d) Must be oriented towards achieving the vision and mission and the results and benefits obtained.
- e) Must be honest, objective, transparent, and innovative as a catalyst for change in the management of government agencies in the form of updating methods and techniques for measuring performance and compiling accountability reports (LAN and BPKP 2000).

This study shows results that there is a significant relationship between accountability and management of village funds in the villages of Natar District, South Lampung Regency. The results of this study are in line with the original hypothesis where there is a relationship between accountability and the management of village funds.

The results of this study support previous research conducted by Ni Wayan Rustiarini (2016), which states that the implementation of village fund management in Bali Province can be said to be normatively by the mechanism regulated in Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning villages.

Transparency and Management of Village Funds

Transparency is the existence of policies that are open to supervision. What is meant by information is information about every aspect of government policies that the public can reach. Information disclosure results in healthy, tolerant political competition, and procedures are based on general preferences (Bappenas, 2003).

The principles of transparency can be measured through several indicators such as the following:

1. Mechanisms guarantee the system of openness and standardization of all public service processes.
2. Mechanisms that facilitate public inquiries about various policies and public services, and processes within the public sector.

3. Mechanisms that facilitate reporting and dissemination of information and deviations from the actions of public officials in serving activities (Bappenas, 2003).

This study shows no significant relationship between transparency and the management of village funds in villages in Natar District, South Lampung Regency. The results of this study are not in line with the original hypothesis where there is a relationship between transparency and the management of village funds.

The results of this study support previous research conducted by Rianto, T (2015), which stated that the Village Fund Allocation Management or Pengelolaan Alokasi Dana Desa (ADD) at the Perangat Selatan Village Office from implementation to the achievement of the results can be accounted for in front of all Village Government parties, but cannot be accounted for to the entire village community.

Village Fund Participation and Management

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3. The local government has a proactive attitude to encourage citizen participation in the budgeting process. This is due to the short gap between public awareness on how to participate effectively and the aspiration to realize an aspirational APBD.

This study shows no significant relationship between participation and management of village funds in villages in Natar District, South Lampung Regency. The results of this study are not in line with the original hypothesis where there is a relationship between transparency and the management of village funds.

The results of this study support previous research conducted by Tumbel, S.M (2016), which says that community participation in development planning, development implementation, and evaluation in village fund management is still meager.

CONCLUSION

This study aimed to examine whether there is a relationship between accountability, transparency, and participation with the management of village funds in the villages of Natar District, South Lampung Regency. Based on the results of hypothesis testing using the Pearson correlation test using SPSS v25 software, there is only one supported hypothesis, namely the accountability variable. At the same time, the other two hypotheses, namely the variables of transparency and participation, are not supported. The management of village funds in villages in Natar District, South Lampung Regency is good enough to apply the principles and rules regarding accountability. However, the principles of transparency and participation in the management of village funds are still not maximally implemented.

Weakness

This research has limitations, namely:

1. The validity and reliability of the instruments used in this study appear to have not been well tested because several indicators have been eliminated (validation). Researchers suspect the possibility of other factors, namely poor translation, especially the language setting that is not by the respondent's condition.
2. The sample in this study is only villages in Natar District, South Lampung Regency. Therefore, the results of this study cannot be generalized to the management of village funds in the South Lampung Regency outside the sample.

Recommendation

For further research based on the findings above, the authors suggest that further research:

1. Conducts setting the language for the questionnaire to make it easier to understand by respondents.
2. It is necessary to develop research instrument indicators adapted to the conditions and environment of the object under study.

It is recommended for further research to expand the research sample to get better research results.

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