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Article Title

Integration of Sustainable Development Goals into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze the integration of SDG values into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan. This research uses an inductive qualitative analysis. Inductive analysis is an approach that begins with field facts, analyzes them based on relevant theories and arguments, and ultimately yields a conclusion. The results show that integrating the SDGs into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan has significantly contributed to village development. At the input stage, the active participation of the community in formulating work programs has reflected an inclusive approach that considers the needs and aspirations of the residents. In terms of outputs, tangible progress has been made in developing village infrastructure and health services, although some programs have yet to materialize fully. The impact of the Village Government Work Plan implementation has been positively felt by the community, especially in improving road infrastructure which enhances access and mobility. These results show that the integration of SDGs into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan has successfully created changes impacting the community's quality of life. However, there are still challenges to overcome for more comprehensive success. Therefore, it is recommended that the Popalia Village Government intensify efforts to complete the unimplemented Village Government Work Plan programs, prioritizing initiatives that directly impact improving the community's quality of life. Relevant community organizations are expected to support the village government through collaboration and mobilizing additional resources to ensure the sustainability and expansion of programs aligned with the SDGs. The villagers are also encouraged to actively participate in every stage of the Village Government Work Plan, from planning to evaluation, to ensure that the initiatives align with their needs and aspirations. Enhancing communication and coordination among all stakeholders is vital to overcoming existing challenges and maximizing the positive impact of integrating SDGs into the development of Popalia Village.

Keywords: SDGs; Village Development; Work Plan.

INTRODUCTION

Villages have long been recognized as government entities, even before the establishment of the Republic of Indonesia (Putra & Alifandi, 2021). From the pre-independence era to modern times, numerous regulations have been enacted to manage village governance. The initial step in this regulatory framework began with the enactment of [Law Number 22 of 1948](#) and [Law Number 19 of 1965](#). Over time, several changes in village regulation culminated in a significant milestone with the enactment of [Law Number 6 of 2014](#). This law introduced a new paradigm for villages by establishing clearly defined and expanded positions, roles, and authorities.

Regarding development, [Law Number 6 of 2014](#) aims to enhance rural communities' welfare and quality of life. It includes poverty alleviation, fulfilling basic needs, infrastructure development, fostering local economic potential, and sustainable natural resource and environmental management. These objectives are designed to promote equitable well-being across all segments of rural populations (Waruwu et al., 2023).

Village development planning is crucial for achieving these objectives, further regulated by [Ministerial Regulation Number 114 of 2014](#). This regulation guides villages in drafting the Village Government Work Plan, which details the Village

Mid-Term Development Plan. This planning mechanism allows village governments to propose development needs through participatory discussions (Fox, 2020). Proposals approved by the regional government are integrated into subsequent Village Government Work Plans, making them a crucial part of regional development strategies. However, significant challenges in village development realization, particularly regarding funding availability, often impede the desired development outcomes (Permatasari et al., 2021).

Previous research has provided a clear picture of the challenges of implementing physical development in villages. Pranata (2019) found that the evaluation of physical development in villages needed to be optimally implemented, with uneven development being a primary indicator. A limited budget was identified as a significant factor hindering the even distribution of development. These findings reemphasize the importance of effective planning and budget allocation in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of village development.

Arianti (2020) added insight regarding the role of leadership in village development. Arianti assessed the performance of village chiefs in physical development as sufficient but could have been more optimal. The lack of supervision by village chiefs and minimal cooperation with village communities were identified as significant obstacles. It highlights the importance of collaboration between village governments and communities in planning and implementing inclusive and sustainable development.

Ratu et al. (2021) highlighted several obstacles to implementing the Village Government Work Plan, including information, policy content, community support, and potential allocation. These findings indicate that various factors can hinder the effectiveness of the Village Government Work Plan as a development planning tool, all of which require an integrated approach to overcome.

Meanwhile, Basri et al. (2022) revealed that despite ongoing socialization about the village SDGs program, many community members still need to understand what SDGs entail. Communities tend to be more familiar with direct aid programs such as Direct Cash Assistance, Non-Cash Food Assistance, and the Family Hope Program. It shows a gap in information and understanding about SDGs among rural populations, potentially hindering their participation and support for sustainable development initiatives. Overall, these studies underline the complexity of challenges faced in village development efforts and affirm the need for comprehensive and collaborative strategies to address these challenges.

Understanding SDGs as a global framework for sustainable development, Triatmanto (2020) emphasized the importance of accelerating the achievement of SDG targets as a development priority at both national and local levels. Policy

planning collaboration across government levels is crucial in this endeavor. At the local level, integrating SDG targets into the Village Mid-Term Development Plan through measurable programs, indicators, targets, and clear funding support is vital for ensuring practical and goal-oriented sustainable development efforts.

Sustainable development, known as the SDGs, focuses on accelerating the achievement of established targets to promote regional development priorities. Implementing SDGs at the regional level requires incorporating these targets into the Regional Mid-Term Development Plan as part of a comprehensive development strategy. This approach ensures that development focuses on economic growth and social (Cudečka-Puriņa et al., 2022), environmental (Morita et al., 2020), and intergenerational equity (Faradova, 2020).

Village SDGs encompass at least 18 broad goals and targets, ranging from eradicating poverty and hunger to achieving well-being in health, quality education, gender equality, and environmental sustainability (SDGs Center UB, 2023). These goals reflect a holistic vision of sustainable development emphasizing economic growth and social, environmental, and cultural aspects. Thus, implementing SDGs in villages enhances rural communities' current quality of life and ensures sustainability for future generations.

Based on the description above, this research aims to analyze the integration of SDG values into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan. This research aims to identify the extent to which the Village Government Work Plan has incorporated SDG targets and benefited in improving the quality of life for rural communities. Therefore, this study not only offers an assessment of the effectiveness of the Village Government Work Plan in sustainable development but also provides insights into potential improvements and strategies for implementing SDGs at the village level to support long-term development goals.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach to understand groups of people, objects, situations, conditions, ongoing events, and even thought systems (Whitney, 1960). This research was conducted in Popalia Village, Kolaka Regency. This research utilized both primary and secondary data sources. Data was collected through interviews with key informants, field observations, literature study techniques, and document analysis concerning the Village Government Work Plan based on the SDGs. The acquired data was then analyzed using inductive qualitative analysis. Inductive analysis is an approach that begins with field facts, analyzes them based on relevant theories and arguments, and ultimately yields a conclusion (Neuman, 2003).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In assessing the success of public policy, understanding the relevant criteria is essential, especially when the policy directly relates to the SDGs. Focusing on the case study of Popalia Village, this approach becomes more significant as each village presents unique characteristics in terms of resources, culture, and challenges faced. Integrating SDGs into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan requires specific and relevant indicators, including input, process, output, and impact indicators. We will detail these indicators further in the subsequent discussion.

A. Input Indicators

In evaluating the implementation of the Village Government Work Plan, input indicators are crucial and encompass human resources, finance, and infrastructure that support policy implementation (Sayful, 2020). Efficiency is vital to ensuring effectiveness by measuring the cost per policy unit, emphasizing the importance of budget management to prevent waste. An approach that considers economic aspects in sustainable development, aligned with the SDGs, demands careful integration of resource allocation with achieving sustainable development targets in the village. In this context, Ramadan stated:¹

“Community involvement in contributing to their aspirations is undoubtedly necessary. However, among several proposals, we selectively choose those that the community truly needs. We must wait to realize all plans due to budget constraints. Some SDGs have been included in the Village Government Work Plan, such as providing internet networks, drainage, bore wells, and trash disposal. We strive to include all these, which all fall under the SDGs components in Popalia Village.”

Input is a critical component comprising various assessment indicators, including supporting resources. Adequate human resources, alongside financial and infrastructural aspects, facilitate the smooth operation of the Village Government Work Plan. An orientation towards sustainable development, integrated within the SDGs framework, highlights the importance of using these resources efficiently and effectively. In this regard, Musran stated:²

“We invite the community to express their proposal when preparing a work plan. Regarding the resources for the composition, some say there are seven, and others say nine, but we use a team consisting of nine people. Regarding its connection with the SDGs, aspects like sanitation, communal toilets, and supplementary food for nutrition are all included in the Popalia Village Government Work Plan.”

In discussing the Popalia Village Government Work Plan, the composition of the drafting team, which includes various representatives from village elements such as the Village Secretary, Head of Government Affairs, and community

¹Interview Results with the Head of Popalia Village, Ramadan, on May 8, 2023.

²Interview Results with a Popalia Village Official, Musran, on May 4, 2023.

representatives, complies with the regulations that mandate a nine-member team. The diversity of the team members ensures that various aspects of the village's needs and interests are well-represented, making the plans more inclusive and comprehensive (Arafat et al., 2022).

However, there are obstacles to realizing some work plans due to budget limitations. With a total budget requirement of IDR 17,523,280,000, there is a gap between financial needs and available funds, which hinders the implementation of specific programs. It poses challenges in prioritizing budget allocation to ensure that the most critical programs directly impacting community welfare are implemented first.

The importance of integrating work programs with the SDGs component demonstrates the village's commitment to sustainable and inclusive development. The linkage of work programs to the SDGs enhances rural communities' quality of life and contributes to achieving global development targets. This approach requires strategic planning and efficient resource allocation, where priority is given to programs that directly contribute to achieving SDG indicators at the village level.

Overall, improving the efficiency of resource use, both human and financial, is vital to overcoming budget constraints and ensuring effective work plan implementation. It demands innovation in resource management and creative solutions for financing, such as through partnerships with third parties (Muis, 2022) or utilizing technology to enhance operational efficiency (Irmayani et al., 2023). Continuity between planning and implementation, supported by an outcome-focused approach and orientation towards SDG targets, will optimize the positive impact of the Village Government Work Plan on sustainable village development.

B. Process Indicators

Process indicators play a crucial role in assessing how the Village Government Work Plan translates into services for the community. The focus on whether the activities planned in the Village Government Work Plan are proceeding as expected underscores the importance of effectiveness at every implementation step (Ningsih et al., 2022). This effectiveness is measured by the quality and impact of policy outcomes on the community, which should reflect the achievement of the designed programs' intended goals. Despite expectations for rapid realization of planned development, the reality in Popalia Village indicates that implementation has not yet reached an optimal level. This is evidenced by several community-desired development initiatives that have not yet materialized. In this context, Arlan stated:³

³Interview Results with with the Popalia Village Community, Arlan, on May 5, 2023.

“When there is a meeting, the community is indeed called, but usually, up to 30 people attend along with the village officials. Implementing the Village Government Work Plan is good, especially regarding social assistance for the community, but it still needs further optimization. More development is necessary because asphalt has yet to reach the main roads, let alone the roads leading to the river. So, additional efforts are needed to ensure the Village Government Work Plan is genuinely successful.”

In evaluating the Village Government Work Plan based on process indicators, the link between the SDGs component and the initiated work programs shows a systematic effort to address critical issues in Popalia Village. The designed work programs cover a broad spectrum from alleviating poverty and hunger to enhancing infrastructure and village innovation, all aimed at achieving inclusive and sustainable development (Sjaf et al., 2021). Implementing programs such as Direct Cash Assistance, providing supplementary nutritional food, community health posts, and Bath, Wash, and Latrine (BWL) facilities are concrete steps in realizing SDG components at the local level.

Accelerating development through these programs is expected to reduce social disparities and expand community access to essential services, directly indicating process effectiveness in the Village Government Work Plan. Initiatives such as borehole procurement, sanitation, road repairs, asphaltting, and infrastructure development to address flooding demonstrate a comprehensive approach to village development challenges. This approach addresses the community’s basic needs and considers aspects of economic growth and sustainable innovation.

However, obstacles in the implementation process still need to be improved, where limited budgets and environmental conditions such as flood-prone areas affect the effectiveness and sustainability of the programs. These challenges demand a reevaluation of implementation strategies, which may include adjusting program priorities (Maharani et al., 2023), reallocating resources (Akhirun & Septiady, 2022), or developing more effective risk mitigation strategies (Huang et al., 2020). In this context, adaptation and flexibility in the implementation process are vital to optimizing the impact of the Village Government Work Plan, considering the social, economic, and environmental dynamics of Popalia Village. Continuity between planning and implementation, supported by stakeholder cooperation and active community participation, will determine success in achieving sustainable and inclusive development goals in line with the values mandated by the SDGs.

C. Output Indicators

Output indicators play a central role in measuring the tangible results of implementing the Village Government Work Plan based on the SDGs in Popalia Village. These outputs include the level of community satisfaction (Ramadhani et al., 2023), which reflects the extent to which the policy successfully meets the

needs and expectations of the villagers. Evaluation results have revealed that policy realizations aligned with community aspirations significantly enhance the residents' quality of life and welfare. Thus, the success of the Village Government Work Plan is measured not only by the program implementation but, more importantly, by the positive impact perceived by the community, reflecting the achievement of the set SDGs. In this context, Ramadan stated:⁴

"The outcomes of this work plan align with our goals. Although still being fully realized, we, as the village government, will continue striving to ensure the success of this Work Plan."

These results indicate that the efforts in implementing the Village Government Work Plan have produced positive impacts consistent with community aspirations and needs, reflecting the achievement of several SDG goals. Nevertheless, the fact that some programs still need to be implemented indicates existing obstacles and challenges in the implementation process that need addressing to maximize outputs and ensure that all programs are implemented effectively. In this regard, Mirsan stated:⁵

"The outcomes of the work plan still face challenges and are always pursued, but they align with our goals and remain a priority."

SDG-oriented evaluations of Village Government Work Plan implementation show significant progress, though imperfect. The results reflect concrete efforts to address critical issues such as poverty (Dolley et al., 2020), hunger (Katoch, 2024), health (Anshor & Muttaqin, 2022), and welfare (Okada, 2022) through social assistance programs, provision of supplementary nutritional food at community health posts, and Bath, Wash, and Latrine (BWL) facilities. This progress signifies the village government's responsiveness to the community's basic needs and concrete steps towards achieving SDGs at the local level.

However, several challenges still need to be addressed, particularly regarding basic infrastructure such as clean water and sanitation. For example, the development of bore wells has yet to fully meet community expectations, indicating a need for further improvement in planning and resource allocation. Similarly, in the aspect of road infrastructure improvements, although there has been progress with village road repairs, the need for further asphaltting indicates room for enhancement that could more effectively support community economic activities.

Achievements in economic growth and reducing disparities also mark significant progress, as evidenced by the development of infrastructure to address flooding issues, which directly contributes to the community's economic stability, especially during the rainy season. The village government's efforts in providing

⁴Interview Results with the Head of Popalia Village, Ramadan, on May 8, 2023.

⁵Interview Results with a Member of the Popalia Village Consultative Body, Mirsan, on May 8, 2023.

internet networks also reflect a commitment to innovation and enhancing information access for all residents.

Overall, while the Popalia Village Government Work Plan based on the SDGs has not yet fully realized all planned programs, the progress demonstrates the village government's ongoing efforts to achieve the SDGs. The successes and challenges encountered in implementing these programs provide valuable lessons for future development program planning and execution, ensuring that each effort is more responsive to community needs and aligned with the principles of sustainable development.

D. Impact Indicators

Based on impact indicators, the primary focus is on the tangible consequences experienced by the broader community due to implementing the Village Government Work Plan (Anggariani et al., 2020). Evaluation activities have revealed that the implementation of public policy has made significant changes in the community, indicating the effectiveness of the efforts made. This approach allows for measuring the extent to which the policy has contributed to achieving the SDGs, considering social, economic, and environmental aspects of the changes that have occurred. In this regard, Alpian said:⁶

"The Village Government Work Plan's impact is not 100% realized, but significant change has occurred. Moreover, the community is always involved when there are significant development activities."

On the other hand, Mirsan stated:⁷

"The Village Government Work Plan has had a positive impact. Thankfully, the community has genuinely felt its effects, especially in development."

Furthermore, Arlan expressed his views on the impact of the Village Government Work Plan by stating:⁸

"Thankfully, its impact has been positive, especially with the road paving. We, the community, and students have felt the change. Once dusty roads are now in good condition."

The evaluation of the Village Government Work Plan's impact based on the SDGs has shown significant contributions to improving the quality of life in the village. The community acknowledges the positive impact of various development programs, especially road infrastructure development, which directly increases accessibility and mobility for residents. These initiatives not only facilitate the movement of people and goods but also open up new economic opportunities, reduce the isolation of remote areas, and support the socioeconomic integration of the village (Kaiser & Barstow, 2022).

⁶Interview Results with a Popalia Village Official, Alpian, on May 5, 2023.

⁷Interview Results with a Member of the Popalia Village Consultative Body, Mirsan, on May 8, 2023.

⁸Interview Results with with the Popalia Village Community, Arlan, on May 5, 2023.

Social aid, such as Direct Cash Assistance, has provided crucial economic support for underprivileged families, reducing financial burdens and enhancing the community's purchasing power. The supplementary nutrition program, explicitly aimed at toddlers, plays a crucial role in preventing stunting and improving children's health status, which are essential indicators in achieving SDGs related to health and well-being.

The operation of community health posts and the construction of Bath, Wash, and Latrine (BWL) facilities directly impact improving health and sanitation services in the community, reducing morbidity and mortality rates, and enhancing living standards. Meanwhile, the provision of bore wells and sanitation addresses the fundamental need for clean water, essential for the health and daily life of the community.

Road improvements and paving have transformed the village's appearance, facilitating access to various facilities and services and enhancing inter-regional connectivity. The provision of Internet networks has opened doors to the outside world, enriching village residents' social and economic lives with broader access to information and communication. The construction of culverts in flood-prone areas has proven the village government's commitment to addressing environmental issues and reducing disaster risks, directly impacting the economic sustainability and well-being of the community, especially in facing the challenges of the rainy season.

Overall, the Village Government Work Plan reflects the village government's integrated efforts to implement the principles of sustainable development. It focuses on improving the quality of life (Febria et al., 2021), equalizing access to services and infrastructure (Zhao et al., 2022), and strengthening community resilience against socioeconomic and environmental issues (Sari & Sudarti, 2021). This evaluation shows that the Village Government Work Plan has made a real contribution to achieving the SDGs in the village, creating changes that impact all aspects of community life.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the results and discussion, integrating the SDGs into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan has significantly contributed to village development. At the input stage, the active participation of the community in formulating work programs has reflected an inclusive approach that considers the needs and aspirations of the residents. Although the implementation of the Village Government Work Plan shows high community participation, some programs still need to be implemented, indicating room for improvement in the execution process. In terms of outputs, tangible progress has been made in developing village infrastructure and health services, although some programs have yet to materialize fully. The impact of the Village Government Work Plan

implementation has been positively felt by the community, especially in improving road infrastructure which enhances access and mobility. These results show that the integration of SDGs into the Popalia Village Government Work Plan has successfully created changes impacting the community's quality of life. However, there are still challenges to overcome for more comprehensive success.

Based on the above conclusions, it is recommended that the Popalia Village Government intensify efforts to complete the unimplemented Village Government Work Plan programs, prioritizing initiatives that directly impact improving the community's quality of life. Relevant community organizations are expected to support the village government through collaboration and mobilizing additional resources to ensure the sustainability and expansion of programs aligned with the SDGs. The villagers are also encouraged to actively participate in every stage of the Village Government Work Plan, from planning to evaluation, to ensure that the initiatives align with their needs and aspirations. Enhancing communication and coordination among all stakeholders is vital to overcoming existing challenges and maximizing the positive impact of integrating SDGs into the development of Popalia Village.

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