



EMPOWERMENT OF VILLAGE EQUIPMENT THROUGH NONFORMAL EDUCATION APPROACH IN THE FRAMEWORK OF POVERTY REDUCTION IN THE VILLAGE

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to empirically describe the empowerment of village devices through a non-formal education approach to solve the problem of poverty in the village. Poverty is an old problem that never ends, where various efforts are made but poverty is still stuck. Poverty is not only in the village but also in the city. This problem needs to be understood based on empirical data or experience. The study focused on poverty in villages with different characteristics than the city's contemporaries. Poverty in the village cannot be overcome personally by the poor people themselves, but rather the need for the involvement of others, especially village devices that do have duties and responsibilities to help the government at the village level, including helping poverty alleviation in the village. This paper was developed based on the results of qualitative research and literature studies (literary research) so that this paper is an integration of field findings and theories. The results showed that village empowerment is done through programmatic and continuous training to help poor people out of poverty independently. Empowerment of village devices is carried out gradually and continuously by developing training materials around strategies to solve the problem of poverty in the village. From implementing this training, village devices can compile and implement various poverty alleviation programs in the village efficiently and effectively.

Keywords: *Empowerment; Village Devices; Nonformal Education; Poverty*

INTRODUCTION

Regional autonomy provides opportunities for local governments to carry out development programs in the regions according to the needs and potentials of their respective regions. Each region has different problems or needs so that in order for regional development to be effective, all regional development programs must be in accordance with the needs and potential of the region. One of the important programs in village development, for example, is poverty alleviation efforts that have never ended. One of the things we can do is empower village officials as assistants to the village head to carry out development tasks in the village, including poverty alleviation.

In terms of implementing community autonomy, the village is at the forefront of services that are in direct contact with the community, as the lowest state organizational structure. Therefore, the capability and capability of the village government plays a very important role. Given the complexity of the problems they face, village officials need to be careful and take responsibility for the village community.” (Mukhtar et al., 2019). Law Number 6 of 2014 authorizes traditional villages and villages, or other names hereinafter referred to as villages, to

have territorial boundaries and regulate and control the administration of government and the interests of the community, stating that it is a community corporation. On the initiative of the community that is recognized and respected, the rights of origin, origin and/or traditional rights in the system of government of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. The village government as part of the social system plays a very important role in managing the social capital owned by the community. With this law, the village government can freely carry out development programs that support the effective implementation of regional (village) development.

Village apparatus is an important element in village governance. Village apparatus as assistants to the village head in carrying out government tasks at the village level. In Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages it is explained that, "The village government is the Village Head or what is called by another name and is assisted by the Village Apparatus as an element of village administration. The Village apparatus consists of the Village Secretary, Regional Implementing elements and Technical Implementing elements" (Muhyani & Nurmayasari, 2020). As assistants to the village head, village officials should have new abilities, knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be able to carry out their duties in carrying out village government duties, especially in efforts to alleviate poverty in the village (Dwimawati et al., 2019).

Poverty in the village is a social problem that never ends, even though various efforts and strategies continue to be carried out to reduce poverty. Efforts to reduce poverty in villages are carried out simultaneously and continuously by both the government and the community, especially social institutions that observe social problems, especially poverty.

There are many strategies and steps that can be taken to reduce poverty in the village, one of which is by empowering village officials. Village officials have the authority and responsibility in the field of public services at the village level. One of the services carried out by village officials is poverty alleviation in the village. The success of village officials in carrying out their duties to serve the public is influenced by the quality of themselves. Village officials must have a new set of knowledge, skills and attitudes needed in relation to public service tasks. In order for village officials to be able to carry out their duties effectively and successfully, it is necessary to empower village officials.

This empowerment provides an opportunity for village officials to take initiatives with their own creative ideas and take strategic steps that are efficient and effective. This is very dependent on the ability of the device to develop its potential. Improving the ability of village officials can be done through the process of education and training in the non-formal education system (Agustina, 2017).

In relation to the empowerment of village officials, stated that there are several important things that must be considered, namely: (1) Concerns about community problems, needs, possibilities / resources. (2) Mutual trust between program managers and program owners. (3) Promotion of community support in various process activities (government). (4) The participatory type, namely NS. Efforts to involve all components of institutions or individuals in the activity process, especially community members, (5) protect the role of the community and the results obtained. Empowerment of village officials is expected to increase opportunities to provide public services to reduce village poverty. (Ilhamdi et al., 2021). Therefore, in this PKM, it is hoped that the empowerment of the Village Apparatus can reduce the poverty rate in the village.

RESEARCH METHODS

The purpose of this service is to explain the phenomenon of strengthening village officials through non-formal education approaches in the context of alleviating poverty in the village. The approach that fits the purpose of this service is a qualitative research approach. Qualitative research is defined in various ways by many different scientists or practitioners depending on their understanding and reading or field experience in the world of service (Yuhana & Pathony, 2020).

“The qualitative research approach is a process of dedication and understanding based on a way of looking at social phenomena and human problems. In this service, the researcher draws a complex picture, looks for words, and details from the respondent's point of view (Hidayat, 2009). Reporting and performing service in natural situations.”. According to Patton, that "Qualitative method is to understand phenomena that are occurring naturally (naturally) in circumstances that are occurring naturally" (Omariba Ogari & Hannah Orwa, 2021). This is suitable for this service which is intended to describe the reality of implementing village apparatus empowerment through a non-formal education approach in the context of alleviating poverty in the village.

The main characteristic of this qualitative research, as stated by Hatch, is that "All qualitative research is characterized by an emphasis on inductive rather than deductive information processing" (Rizvi, 2021). In the context of this service, deductive data is data obtained from empirical experience, namely the empowerment of village officials in Sidorejo Village, Jabung District, Malang Regency. The type of research used in this research is a case study. “A case study is a survey of running instances. The choice of the word “instance” is important in this definition because it means a generalization purpose.”(Leymun et al., 2017). A case study is the examination of an example of an action. The choice of the word "examples" is appropriate in this definition because it shows the purpose of generalization. In the context of this service, the case study is a case of empowering village officials in Sidorejo village which shows examples of actions in the form of empowering village officials through non-formal education in the context of alleviating poverty in the village (Maharani et al., 2018).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This service obtained a set of empirical findings that the empowerment of village officials in Sidorejo village to accelerate and succeed in poverty alleviation in the village was carried out by increasing the capacity of village officials. Village capacity building is carried out through a series of trainings (non-formal education) for village officials, especially those dealing with village poverty alleviation programs.



Figure 1. The atmosphere of the opening of village apparatus empowerment
Empowerment of village officials in Sidorejo village is carried out in a programmed or planned manner and is carried out in stages by considering the conditions in the village, especially

the state of village officials and local potential in the village itself. Generally, village officials are farmers with relatively low levels of education and low economic levels. They have a busy daily life in search of a livelihood to meet the needs of family life. However, they have the readiness to participate in assisting the village head in providing various public services in the village, especially services in alleviating poverty in the village of Sidorejo. Because the level of education and experience of village officials is still limited, it is necessary to increase the capacity of village officials through non-formal education, namely the necessary training related to their duties as village officials. Their experience is limited because they generally live in villages with a focus on agricultural-based family economic activities whose land is in the same village, so they rarely go out to interact with other communities such as advanced communities including urban communities (Daniati, 2019). With the limited social interaction, their experience and abilities are also limited.



Figure 2. Group discussion discussing Village Problems

Empowerment of village officials is carried out in stages (procedural). First, a village meeting (brainstorming) was conducted with village officials to discuss problems in the village. After identifying various problems in the village, especially poverty (the most prominent), an activity plan was made, in which the first activity carried out was to deeply identify the real problems that occurred in Sidorejo village and at the same time identify various village potentials that could be utilized to alleviate poverty. poverty in the village. The results of the identification of problems or needs and village potentials are used as the basis for developing a program of poverty alleviation activities in the village. Many alternatives are offered in an effort to alleviate poverty in the village, and from these various alternatives, training activities are prioritized to empower village officials. This is because they have an important and major role in the success of poverty alleviation in the village through an effective service system. This ability is obtained through training activities that are carried out on an ongoing basis (Padabain & Nugroho, 2018).



Figure 3. The atmosphere of the final discussion in discussing conclusions

The willingness of village officials to be trained in order to help serve the public in alleviating poverty is one of the supporting factors in alleviating the empowerment of village officials. With a willingness to be trained, it is possible for their abilities to be increased as capital abilities in carrying out tasks. Another factor is the availability of human resources to become trainers in village apparatus training, both internal and external trainers. Meanwhile, the constraint factor is the limited facilities and funds for the implementation of training in an integrated and sustainable manner. In addition, there is limited time for village officials to carry out tasks with sufficient time.

CONCLUSION

Empowerment of rural communities in the village of Sidorejo Tumpang is carried out in a programmatic manner which was compiled jointly by village officials. Empowerment of village officials is carried out by providing programmatic education and training and is attended by village officials appointed by the village head. To determine the time and duration of the training, training materials, and training venues are carried out through a deliberation and consultation between the village head and appointed village officials.

Various poverty alleviation programs in the village are prepared based on an introduction to the various factors that cause poverty in the village and the various potentials that can be developed to alleviate poverty in the village. Recognizing village potentials for poverty alleviation programs is very important so as not to spend a lot of budget, but to take advantage of local (local) resources that are available or can be provided for empowering village officials (Abdul Muin & Lubis, 2020).

The training materials provided to village officials are the concept of poverty, the factors that cause poverty, cases of poverty alleviation, steps to poverty alleviation, and various obstacles faced in alleviating poverty in the village. In addition, village officials are given the ability to identify potential villages for village development efforts, especially poverty alleviation. Before the training was carried out, village officials looked for and determined a suitable trainer for their learning needs. Their learning needs are ways to help poor people get out of poverty, especially regarding the determination of effective programs to solve these problems. Participants are also trained using the consultation and simulation method so that they are expected to have more complete abilities in carrying out tasks in the field in poverty alleviation efforts in the village.

Changes that occurred as a result of the training of village officials, among others, were that they recognized the factors that made people poor, were able to identify village potentials that could be utilized in poverty alleviation, and were able to create alternative programs for poverty alleviation (Kusuma et al., 2020).

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