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Community Participation in Supporting the Development of Nino Konis Santana National Park As a Tourism Destination in Timor Leste

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Abstract: Community Participation in Supporting the Development of Nino Konis Santana National Park as a Tourism Destination in Timor Leste. The purpose of this study is to analyze the extent of the role of government and society in supporting efforts to develop the Nino Konis Santan National Park in Timor Leste. The main things that can be seen are the role of government, community participation, and government and community efforts in supporting the development of the national park. This study uses a qualitative method with a case study method approach. The samples taken in this study were the Tutuila Sub-district Head, two village heads and one from the forestry police staff and three local communities selected by purposive sampling. The results of this study include: (1) The level of public understanding about nature protection is still very low (2) The level of socialization of conservation policies is still not optimal (3) There is no world of work for the community (4) There is no provision of full authority to local officials, so that it influences decision making in implementing policies (still centralized) (5) There is no public awareness about the importance of national parks in Timor Leste.

Keywords: Role, Participation, Development efforts, Policy socialization, work, and public awareness.

INTRODUCTION

Nino Koni Santana National Park is one of the first national parks in Timor Leste. The park was established on August 3, 2007, covering an area of 1,236 km². The park connects several important areas for bird conservation such as Lore, Mount Paitchau, Lake Ira Lalaro and Jako Island. The park also covers 556 km² of the Coral Triangle, an underwater area said to contain the greatest diversity in the world. Rare birds protected by the park include the Lesser Cockatoo, Yellow Guava, Eastern Green Dove, Eastern Emperor Dove, and Timor Sparrow.

The park is named Nino Koni Santana Park in honor of the late former Fretilin commander who was born in Tutuala, a village located within the park. The park covers 125,600 hectares,

consisting of a land area of 68,000 hectares of lowlands and tropical forests; and a marine area of 55,600 hectares, part of the Coral Triangle area. Timor Leste is a small country in Southeast Asia but in terms of natural potential it has a lot of tourism potential contained in it. Timor Leste is a former Portuguese colony and was once the 27th province of Indonesia. It separated from Indonesia on August 30, 1999 through a referendum held by the UN which only received international recognition on May 20, 2002 under the name Republica Democratica Timor Leste "RDTL" (RDTL Constitution Article 1 paragraph 1 which reads that the democratic republic of Timor Leste is a democratic, sovereign and united state based on the will of the people and respect for human dignity). This country has just started its development and continues to strive to build so as not to lag behind other countries. development strategy as "An effort or series of growth and change efforts that are planned and carried out consciously by a nation, state and government, towards modernity in the context of nation building". Siagian (1994). The Timor-Leste government prioritizes its development on infrastructure to carry out government functions. According to the American Public Works Association (Stone, 1974 In Kodoatie, RJ 2005), infrastructure is physical facilities developed or needed by public agencies for government functions and to facilitate social and economic goals.

Tourism development is part of national, regional and local development. This country's tourism was only built in 2014 with an emphasis on the development of Tourism Human Resources (HR) through cooperation with various formal and non-formal educational institutions both from within and outside the country, while the development of infrastructure and other supporting facilities for tourism activities is underway in stages.

The development of the Nino Koni Santana tourist area is basically the development of tourism components, which in its implementation are expected to run gradually and in parallel. These components do not stand alone in influencing tourism activities, but are a series of various other factors such as economic conditions, Timor Leste government policies, existing potential, natural potential, artificial potential, availability of human resources, labor and experts and coordination between various related agencies Gunn, (1988).

Geographically, Timor Leste is an archipelago consisting of lowlands in the form of coastal areas and highlands, namely mountainous areas rich in natural resources and natural beauty that is still natural and historical heritage assets that are very potential for tourism that can generate large foreign exchange for the country, but all have not been managed properly so that they have not generated foreign exchange for the country. There are several tourist attractions that have been managed by the government, but the availability of tourist service facilities in these tourist attractions is still very minimal and inadequate, this makes the interest in tourist visits still relatively low.

Lospalos is one of the 13 administrative districts of Timor Leste, this district has a vast and dense forest, fertile land for agriculture, and has many rivers and mountains and has a very beautiful natural panorama and has a natural horizon that is still very natural, one of which is the Nino Konis Santana National Park which is the most beautiful park in Timor Leste. Nino Koni Santana Park is one of the tourist attractions owned by the Lospalos district and is located in the Tutuala sub-district area of Lautem / Lospalos district which is adjacent to the Jako Island tourist spot which has been frequently visited by tourists both from abroad and local which makes it a tourist attraction and is always visited by foreign and domestic tourists, but the availability of tourism facilities in this tourist attraction is not adequate and its management is not well planned so that the interest in tourist visits is still relatively low. The development of a tourist destination will not be successful without careful planning, Yoti (2008).

With the decentralization or division of administrative areas (Regional autonomy) initiated by the government through (Decree No. 24 / Year 2009), Lospalos district is determined to develop tourism components in the Nino Konis Santana park tourist attraction to provide convenience, comfort and security for tourists, so that it can increase the interest of tourists to visit and through the development carried out it is hoped that it can provide foreign exchange for

the region and also open up employment opportunities for the people of Lospalos district and in particular the people of Tutuala Sub District.

The level of participation of the local community of the Tutuala sub-district in the development of the Nino Koni Santana park is very important both individually and as a whole, because a development in achieving a fair and equitable development trajectory is one of the important alternatives in a government policy by a country. However, every development in a development must have a level of agreement between the government and the community so that there is no dispute in the midst of the small community who really need land in creating land for the lives of the community itself.

According to Hessel in quoting Nelson's Statement (digilib.uinsby.ac.id) which states that the level of community participation in development is of various types, including; one Horizontal participation, namely participation among citizens or members of the community, where the community has the ability to take the initiative in completing a development activity, two vertical participation, participation between the community as a whole and the government, in a relationship where the community is in the position of a follower or client.

Local community participation already exists but the direction of community involvement in the development of Nino Santa Park as a leading area in Timor Leste is not yet clear. The local community of Tutuala Sub-district is still waiting for what policies will be taken in involving the community so that the development stage of Nino Koni Santana Park becomes a trigger in reviving the local community's economy. Research in Timor Leste because Timor Leste is a newly developing country and has a very small population, only 1,183,643, which includes the people in Tutuala sub-district as many as 3,514 people of whom 1,710 are men and 1,804 women according to 2015 Population Census data.

Based on the above background, the mass that has been found in conducting this research is as follows.

1. The role of local government in supporting the development of the Nino Koni National Park is still far from the expectations of the Central Government. This is because there has been no delegation of authority to the regional government.
2. Lack of community participation in supporting Nino Koni Santana National Park.
3. The efforts of the regional government and local communities have not been optimal, thus affecting the support of the central government in developing the Nino Koni Santana National Park.
4. The level of policy socialization is not yet optimal, thus affecting the level of public understanding in supporting the development of the Nino Koni Santana National Park in Timor Leste.
5. The Nino Koni Santana National Park is still used by the community to open land.

Based on the many existing problems, this research is limited to the problem of Community Participation in supporting the Development of Nino Koni Santana National Park as one of the tourism destinations in Timor Leste.

Based on the background above, the problems raised in this research can be formulated as follows:

1. What is the role of the local government in involving the community in supporting the development of the Nino Koni Santana National Park as a tourism destination in Timor Leste?
2. How is the process of community participation in supporting the development of Nino Koni Santana Park so that it can become a tourist destination in Timor Leste?
3. What efforts have been made by the government and local community to support the development of Nino Koni Santana Park so that it can become a tourism destination in Timor Leste?

METHOD

Types of research

The type of research that will be used in this study is qualitative research (Qualitative Research) where researchers try to see how community participation in park development, as well as how community participation in preserving the Nino Koni Santana National Park in Timor Leste. Data collection in the form of information that can answer the framework of thought and problems submitted by researchers. The reason researchers use qualitative methodology is because by using this method, phenomena that occur in the field can be found and understood. In addition, this method is used because it can collect data in the field completely, more deeply and meaningfully, and credibly with issues that are developing, from the perspective of meanings according to society (Dezin & Lincoln, (2011).

Research Design

In this research, it can be divided into two groups, namely: 1) the initial stage of research planning which can be seen from; identification of the problem to be researched, research location, sources, and existing literature theory. 2) Research implementation stage which can be seen from; observation, interviews, documentation and field data processing.

This research design uses a case study design approach. The case study design approach is essentially a form of research based on cases or events that occur in society using all possible assumptions that are actually felt, or seen in the eyes of Yin people, (2009). Merriam (1998) argues that case study research is a qualitative approach where researchers explore real life, cases or various information, or multiple sources of information through observation, interviews, documents and audiovisuals by describing the cases and themes of the cases.

Research location

This research will be conducted in Timor Leste. Timor Leste is a new country and has many potential resources that can be used in developing the country. One of the main potentials is natural and cultural resources as potential tourist attractions, which can be used to attract tourists to visit Timor Leste.

Research Time

In this study, the time plan that will be used to conduct the research is 1 month starting in April 2018.

Research Subject

The subjects of this study are the elements of tourism development work in the form of national parks in the country of Timor Leste, especially the director of the Lospalos tourism ministry, local officials and the community who are the targets or targets of researchers, in collecting information. The data subjects here are based on the Purposive sampling technique, which is a sampling technique or data source collection technique with certain considerations by the researchers themselves. The data sources selected are people who are considered to have a connection in implementing national park development policies and the community who are supporters in the development of the National Park.

Research Object

Views from Stake, 1995 The objective of this research is to collect information. This case study is to collect information from several targets that researchers will take information from conceptually and participatory.

In this study, the object of research is about community participation in the development of the Nino Koni Santana National Park as a tourist destination in Timor Leste. Through this research object, the researcher tries to collect information directly from people who make policies

and implement policies and policy supporters so that the information that can be collected is clear and accurate and can be tested for its truth.

Data collection technique

From the various characteristics of the participants that emerged in this study, the sampling technique was purposive sampling by referring to the theory of Notoadmodjo, (2010). The researcher conducted this sampling by looking at various specific considerations and looking at the main problems that were targeted in this study and the population that had been known and confirmed previously.

Data analysis techniques

Through qualitative research, data analysis is carried out from the beginning of the research and throughout the research process.

a. Data collection

Data is obtained, then collected to be processed systematically. Starting from interviews, observations, editing, classifying, reducing, then data presentation activities and concluding data. Miles and Huberman (2009) stated that there are three types of qualitative data analysis activities, namely.

b. Data Reduction

The data obtained from the field is quite a lot, so it needs to be recorded carefully and in detail. The practice of data reduction means taking the core parts, choosing the main things and focusing on the important parts only, looking for themes and patterns. Thus the results of data reduction will provide a clearer picture, and make it easier for researchers in further research, and searching if needed. Data reduction requires intelligence and mastery as well as a high horizon of thinking.

c. Display data (Data presentation)

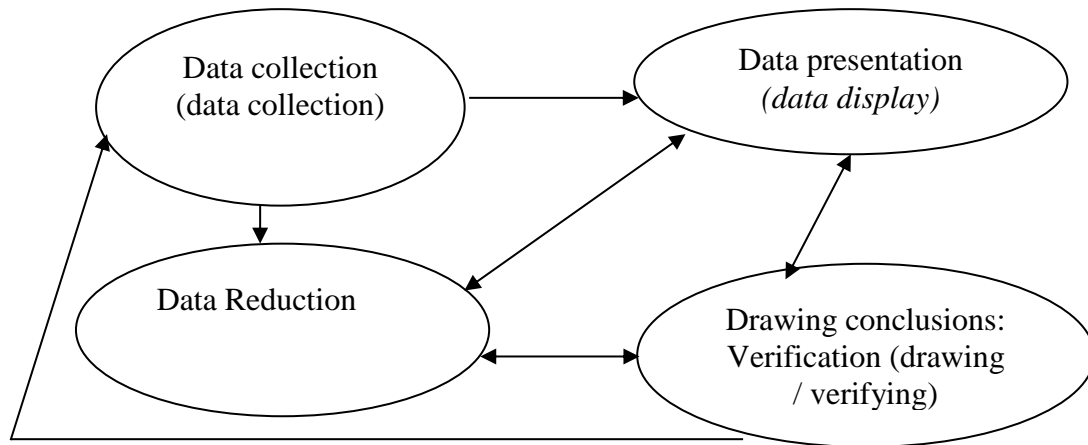
After the data is reduced, the next step is to display the data. Through qualitative research, the form of data collection is in the form of brief descriptions, charts, relationships between categories, flowcharts and the like. In this case, Miles and Huberman, (1984) stated "the most frequent form of display data for qualitative research data in the past has been narrative text". The most frequently used to present data in qualitative research is with narrative text.

By displaying data, it will be easier to understand what is happening, plan further work based on what has been understood. "Looking at displays helps us to understand what is happening and to do something further analysis or caution on that understanding" (Miles and Huberman; 1984). Furthermore, it is suggested that in displaying data in addition to narrative text, it can also be in the form of graphs, matrices, networks and charts.

d. Verification and Conclusion Drawing (Verification)

The fourth step in qualitative analysis according to Miles and Huberman is drawing conclusions and verifying. The conclusions reached are still temporary, and will change if strong supporting evidence is not found at the next stage of data collection. However, if the conclusions put forward at the initial stage are supported by valid and consistent evidence when the researcher returns to the field to collect data, then the conclusions put forward are credible conclusions.

Analysis steps flow



Source: Sugiyono (2015)
Figure 1. Analysis steps flow

Data Validity Techniques

In this study, the researcher used the Source Triangulation Method as a way to improve the measurement of validity and strengthen the credibility of research findings by comparing various different approaches to reduce errors that occur in obtaining valid and credible data.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Research Result

In writing this Journal Article, it will be explained about the target of the research results on the extent of community participation in supporting the development of the Nino Konis Santana National Park as a tourist destination in Timor Leste. The results of this study can be obtained from the results of collecting information from each informant or resource person in accordance with the formulation of the problem with the research object in the writing of the initial proposal.

This study examines the case study approach to local government and communities in Timor Leste, especially the community in Tutuala sub-district, which is the target informant in supporting the development of the Nino Konis National Park. Santana. Participation in this study were local officials at the sub-district level, especially the Sub-district Head, two village heads and one Forestry Police and three local communities who were the targets of the researchers, because they are the ones who own the area where the Nino Koni Santana National Park was established and will become a tourist destination in Timor Leste if it is well developed.

a. Role of Government.

Through this discussion, there are several main roles that can be carried out by the local government at the sub-district level to support the development of the Nino Konis Santana National Park, including the following; Technical implementers, providing socialization, providing counseling, conducting observations, organizing human resources, providing protection, creating meetings and decision making.

Local government role suitability diagram

Implementation of the role of local authorities

Functions and roles of local officials

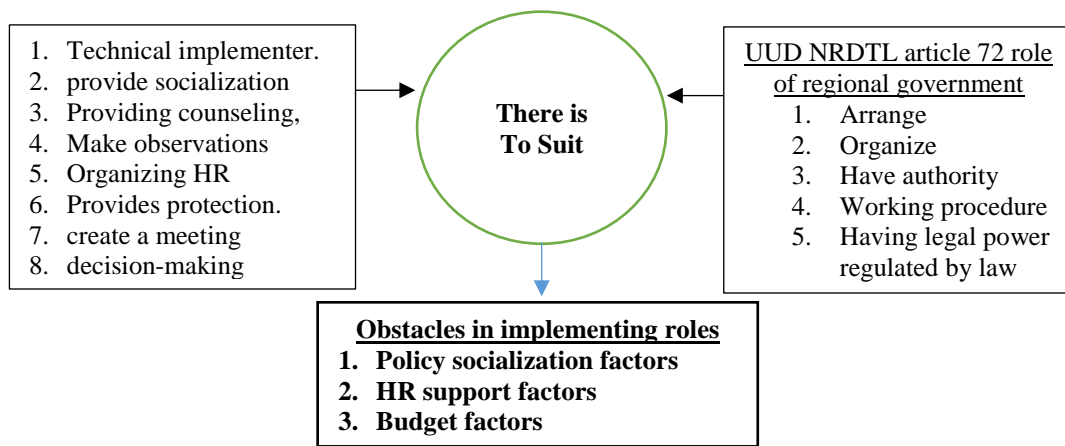


Figure 2. Diagram of the role of local government.

The diagram above explains that if government officials at the sub-district level can carry out their roles according to their functions, then support for the development of national parks can be carried out properly. However, in reality there are still obstacles faced by local officials because all programs are still centralized.

b. Community Participation

There are several forms of participation carried out by the local community in supporting the development of the Nino Konis Santan National Park, including: supporting the development, participating in meetings held by the local government, sharing information and feeling happy when the park is developed.

Community Participation Diagram.

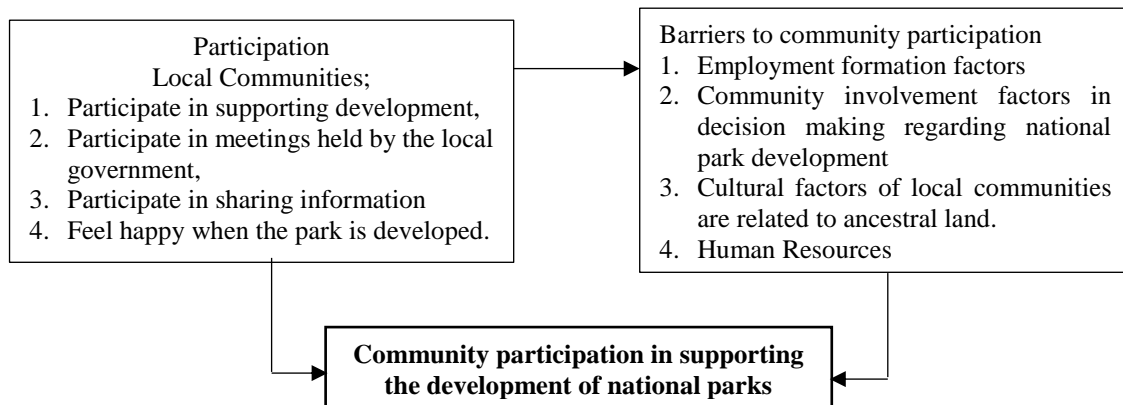


Figure 3. Community participation

In the diagram above, it can be explained that although the level of participation is still not in accordance with expectations, the community has tried to support, participate in various meetings formed by the local government, share information about the development process and feel happy if the National Park has been developed. However, the obstacles for the community to participate in supporting the development of the National Park are; Employment factors that have not been attempted by the central government so that the community still uses the land for farming and planting, Factors of community involvement in decision-making about development efforts do not yet exist, Factors of local community culture and Human resource factors.

c. Government and community efforts

The efforts referred to in this study are to what extent the efforts of the Tutuala District government in triggering the level of public awareness that until now uses land for farming, so that they have good intentions to support various efforts of the local government in releasing land. And also try hard to protect the park so that it can be used for the benefit of everyone.

In accordance with government regulations of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste no. 24 of 2014 concerning the establishment of Timor Leste National Tourism Law policy article 8 which explains that, The National Tourism Policy is aimed at developing tourism activities with respect for the environment and aims to create the most favorable conditions for increasing investment in tourism in achieving sustainable economic growth.

Diagram of government and local community development efforts

From all the efforts made by the government and the community in supporting the development of the Nino Koni Santana National Park, it can be analyzed through the following diagram:

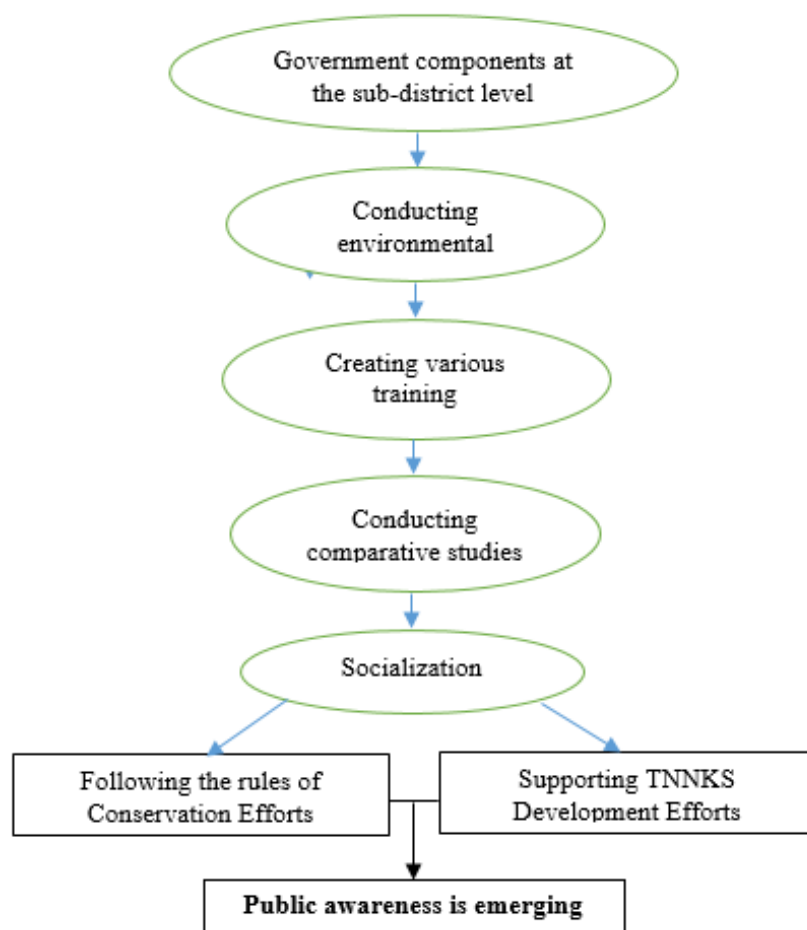


Figure 4. Government and community efforts to support development

From the diagram above, it shows that until now the local government and local communities have not had a significant level of collaboration to form a society that is aware and obedient to the various existing rules. This greatly affects the process of government and local community participation in supporting efforts to develop the Nino Konis Santana National Park.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, the following conclusions can be drawn.

1. The role of government can be seen in the forms of roles that are key in the development of national parks, such as, providing in-depth socialization to the community, Providing counseling that can also be seen in the implementation of obstacles that will be key in the development of the national park.
2. Community participation can be seen from the extent to which the community supports development, participates in meetings held by the local government, and shares information and feels happy if the park is developed. The main thing that also needs to be seen is some of the obstacles that hinder the community in supporting the development, including; employment factors, community involvement factors in decision making, local community customs factors and human resource factors.
3. Efforts by the government and the community to support the development process of the Nino Konis Santana National Park include improving good cooperative relations, increasing the level of training, conducting more comparative studies and deepening the level of socialization in order to form a society that is aware of carrying out conservation while awaiting the development process from the Central Government.

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