

Village Democracy Strengthening in Realizing Good Governance

Hariato, Mudji Rahardjo, Bambang Martin Baru

* Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Merdeka Madiun

Abstract

Community service performance has become an increasingly strategic policy issue because the improvement of bureaucratic performance has implications in the administration of government functions. The number of public complaints about the performance of public services, such as services that are convoluted, procedural, and slow in its completion, thus causing public distrust to the village government. The orientation of community service still seems centralized to the village head as the head of government, consequently being hampered in managing public services. To that end, it is necessary to improve the performance of community services through strengthening the democratization of the village by developing community capacity in political knowledge so as to encourage awareness to be actively involved in the process of village governance. Community involvement can be given space and opportunity to be involved in the process of planning, implementing and controlling the administration of government functions. With the involvement of the community, it will encourage increased social control as a balancing force, and can encourage the realization of good governance

Keywords: Village governance, good governance, public services, democratization.

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INTRUDUCTION

Good governance is the desire and hope of the wider community, because with good governance practices can bring better quality public services. During this time, the community considered that the performance of public services is complicated in its management, and the time of completion requires a relatively long time, as a result when dealing with public services many people seek shortcuts through connectivity with public service officers. This condition makes service costs more expensive because they have to provide incentives for officers who have provided convenience in public services. According to Dwiyanto (2002: 76), the emergence of the practice of giving extra service money is influenced by the economic similarity of motivation. On the side of the bureaucratic apparatus, the receipt of extra service money from the community is interpreted as part of a "thank you" from service users for the services they obtain. The bureaucratic apparatus feels that they have provided the best service to service users. Therefore, it is natural that service users provide "tips" for the service performance of the apparatus. On the contrary, for the service user community, the provision of extra money for services to the apparatus is not just to get the convenience of service, but more than that is to build networks within the bureaucracy.

The practice of bad governance above makes the community an object or target that can be used for the benefit of the bureaucracy. The depravity of public services requires the need for comprehensive bureaucratic reform and includes the improvement of good governance practices. Public demands for the realization of good governance are not only limited to the administration of the central or regional level, but also to the level of village government, because the community also still considers the low performance of the village government reflected in the village development program that is not in the interests of the village community. Many village development programs only refer to the interests of the village elite compared to the interests of the villagers. As a result, the implementation of the village development program has received little positive response from most of the villagers. However, efforts to realize good governance have been carried out by the government, although so far there has not been a maximum and systematic effort to realize the practice of governance in the administration of government. According to Dwiyanto (2006: 2), the government faces various obstacles to develop policies and programs to improve governance practices. First, the practice of governance has a broad dimension so that there are many aspects that must be intervened if we want to improve governance practices. Second, there is not much information available on strategic aspects that need to be prioritized as an entry point in improving governance performance. Third, the very diverse conditions between regions in Indonesia make each region have a different complexity of governance problems. Fourth, the commitment and concern of various stakeholders regarding governance reform varies and is generally still low. Likewise in realizing good governance at the village government level, it has the complexity of problems that vary and differ in conditions, this involves aspects of culture, tradition, customs, as well as social, economic and political conditions. So far, to improve the performance of the village government is only sporadic and not properly integrated so that the results have not been felt by the wider community. The government's policy to allocate village funds of approximately one billion each (Rp. 1,000,000,000) is expected to encourage better village government performance, through independence in managing village development programs, so that development outcomes can be the right solution in overcome social problems in the village community. However, the village fund

allocation has not yet been seen evenly, which can be felt by most villagers, because the orientation of the work program is not in accordance with the aspirations and needs of the villagers.

The above conditions indicate the absence of a comprehensive strategy in developing good governance in the village government. The government's concern to seriously plan for reforming governance practices towards the better is still low. In terms of developing good governance, it is a must in the current conditions, the era of globalization has touched various aspects of people's lives, and even the occurrence of interconnectivity between regions must be more efficient. In the era of globalization, competitiveness in the process of community service, speed, and policy certainty are the keys to success. According to Kooiman in Setyawan (2004: 224), governance is a series of processes of social political interaction between government and society in various fields relating to the interests of the community and government intervention in those interests. Governance is mechanisms, processes and institutions through citizens articulate their interests, mediate their differences and use their legal rights and obligations. Governance is the process of service institutions, managing public resources and guaranteeing the reality of human rights. In this context good governance as a government that gives space to the public to participate in the process of administering government, to articulate its interests in order to bring the public interest closer to the regulation produced by the government. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in its policy document entitled "Governance for Sustainable Human Development" (1977), defines governance (governance) as follows: "Governance is the exercise of economic, political, and administrative authority to a country's affairs at all levels and means which promote social cohesion, integration, and ensure the well being of their population "(Governance is the implementation of authority / authority in the economic, political, and administrative fields to manage various State affairs at each level and is a policy instrument state to encourage the creation of conditions of welfare integrity and social cohesiveness in society). Thus, it can be interpreted as a good governance that involves both the process and the results. As a process relating to the use of position and authority in various fields of community life both concerning the economic, social, political and administrative fields so that they can synergize with the potential of society. Whereas as a result related to the performance of government that is able to realize the life of a just and prosperous society.

Good governance can be seen from the process and results of the performance of village government, so that the target is the village community, all forms of village government activities in carrying out their duties and functions must be able to bring closer to the interests of the village community, so that village government work programs can be in accordance with expected and desired by the village community. For this reason, one of the prerequisites for realizing good governance is to strengthen the life of democratization of the village, because the implementation of good governance is provided if the community is given space and the opportunity to participate in the government process. Community involvement in every stage of the government process makes it a powerful tool for social control to prevent deviations from the rules of good governance. The community is no longer placed as the object or target of the recipient of the results of the government program alone but as the subject and actor of the administration of the village government. For this reason, strengthening village democracy requires a more massive effort and directly touching the lives of the villagers, including through the democratization of the village. Based on Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, specifically stated to order the Village Head and BPD (Regional Consultative Body) to carry out democratic life and at the same time be obliged to develop democratic life. This shows that in the Village Law as a form of efforts to synergize democracy as an obligation for the village elite (village head and BPD) by developing the social order and democratic culture of the village community as a whole. If the synergy of both can occur, it can be a great potential in accelerating the progress of the village.

In the Act. Number 6 of 2014, formally recognizes the village as a subject based on the principles of recognition and subsidiarity, intended that the village has values, norms, traditions, customs that are inherent and bound as part of the village community. Village democratization means efforts to mobilize democracy in the peculiarities of each village, and implemented and developed in the spirit of recognizing the uniqueness and distinctiveness of village traditions. According to Sutoro Eko, et al. (2014), the important value of village democratization is motivated by two things, namely: First, in the village arena, democracy is an effort to redefine the relationship between village communities and elites or village government organizers (Kades along with devices and BPD). Power comes from and is in the hands of the people, so the community or villagers are the true owners of the (Desa) power, not the elites or village government organizers. Organizers of village government are merely executors of the power of the village people, not the owners of power or especially village owners. The second background is related to progress marked by the Village Law in looking at the position of the Village. One of the most important parts of the Village Law is the recognition of the State of the origin of the Village (called the principle of recognition) and the establishment of local-scale authority and decision-making locally for the benefit of the Village community (called the subsidiarity principle). With these two principles, the Village has enormous authority to take care of itself. Viewed from the point of view of the interests of the village community, recognition and subsidiarity provide opportunities for the Village to realize a common will in the spirit of the Village to build. Villages appear as subjects who plan and develop their own

priorities, regardless of instructions or dictated by the government or regional government. While on the other hand, only with recognition and subsidiarity, the feudal character and elitism of village government administrators have the opportunity to reappear. In that context, democracy is needed to develop the social capital of the village community in relation to managing the village's power. Through democracy too, it can be expected that the growing awareness of the Village community will be its position as a source and the true owner of power. Recognition and subsidiarity as the principle of village regulation in the context of developing the format of village democracy, are expected to be able to foster and increase the awareness of the village community of the importance of involvement in the process of governance and village development. With the involvement of the village community, it can become a potential social resource in order to realize good governance.

LITERATURE REVIEW.

Good governance, understood by many people differently, depends on the context. In the context of democratization, good governance often inspires activists to create a government that provides broad spaces of participation for actors from institutions outside the government so that there is a balanced division of roles and powers between the state, civil society and market mechanisms (Dwiyanto, et.al (2006 : 18) With the involvement of the three elements in good governance, it is possible to create synergies between government actors and non-government institutions, so as to create an efficient, equitable and responsive government to the interests of the wider community. According to UNDP (1997) argued that the characteristics or principles that must be adhered to and developed in the practice of implementing good governance include: (a). Partipasi (participation), every person or citizen, both male and female, has the same voting rights in the decision-making process, both directly and through representative institutions, in accordance with their respective interests and aspirations. (b). The rule of law, the framework of the rule of law and legislation must be just, enforced, and obeyed in its entirety, especially the rule of law concerning human rights. (c). Transparency (transparency), must be built within the framework of freedom of information. (d). Responsiveness, each institution and process must be directed at efforts to serve various stakeholders. (e). Consensus orientation, good governance will act as a mediator for various different interests to reach consensus or the best opportunity for the interests of each party, and if possible it can also be applied to various policies and procedures that will be determined by the government. (f). Equity (equity), good governance will provide good opportunities for both men and women in their efforts to improve and maintain their quality of life. (g). Effective and efficient (effectivity and efficiency), every process of activity and institution is directed to produce something that is truly in accordance with the needs through the use of various available resources as well as possible. (h). Accountability, decision makers in public sector, private sector, and civil society organizations have accountability (public), as well as stakeholders. (i). Strategic Vision (strategic holders), leaders and communities have a broad and long-term perspective on implementing good governance and human development, along with the perceived need for development. Thus the challenge is how to realize the above characteristics in the practice of governance. While the administration of governance still characterizes bad governance practices, building good governance can begin through strengthening democracy by developing the capacity of the community in the political sphere so as to encourage awareness to be actively involved in the government process.

In essence democracy is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. According to Ubaidillah (2000: 133), government from the people implies that a legitimate government is a government that receives recognition and support by the majority of people through the mechanism of democracy. people's recognition and support for a government is very important, because with this political legitimacy the government can run the wheels of bureaucracy and its programs as a manifestation of the mandate given by the people to it. While governance by the people has the understanding that a government exercises its power in the name of the people, not on the personal impulse of the state elite or the bureaucratic elite. In addition to this understanding, this second element implies that in exercising its power, the government is under social control. Supervision can be carried out directly by the people or indirectly through their representatives in parliament. With the supervision of the people's representatives in parliament, authoritarian ambitions from the organizers can be avoided. And government for the people implies that the power granted by the people to the government must be made in the interests of the people. The interests of the general public must be used as the main foundation of the policy of a democratic government. In Law Number. 6 of 2016, explaining democracy, is a system of organizing village communities in a system of government carried out by village communities or with the consent of the village community. This shows that the main principle in democratic governance is the administration of government carried out by village communities. Every citizen has the right to be involved in deciding strategic matters, such as in establishing village development programs. The principle of democracy was developed on the basis of the socio-cultural of each village, as confirmed through the principles of recognition and subsidiarity. The development of democracy must be aimed at the advancement of community colleagues rather than efforts to fulfill the interests of a small portion of village elites. With the partisanship of

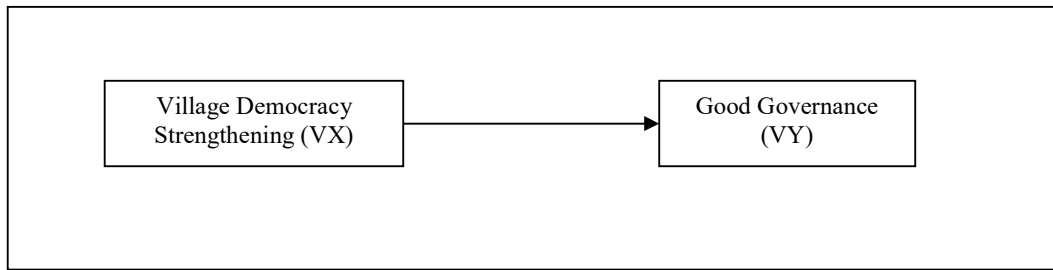
village development towards the interests of the village community, it will foster community awareness of their responsibilities as part of the village community. According to Naeni Amanulloh (2015), more specifically, the principles of village democracy are as follows: a) The interests of the Village Community, the implementation of village governance as a whole must depart and end in the interests of the village community. The interests of the intended village community are those of a strategic nature which include: Village arrangement, Village planning, Village cooperation, Investment plans that go into the Village, Establishment of BUM Desa, Addition and release of Village assets, and extraordinary events. Putting the interests of the village community as the principle of village democracy is intended to control the quality and representation of the aspirations of the village community in the democratic mechanism implemented by the village. b) Deliberation, each Village decision prioritizes the consensus process. Deliberation is a discussion of a particular problem by prioritizing the exchange of opinions and arguments carried out involving all elements of society. Deliberation as the principle of village democracy is part of the recognition of local wisdom that is owned by the village community, including in recognizing the characteristics of mutual cooperation, togetherness, and collectivity. c) Participation means the participation of the Village community in every activity and strategic decision-making of the Village. The Village Law places participatory nature as a regulatory principle, which means having the intention to support the democratization process in the Village. d) Voluntary, democracy requires the process of participation to take place voluntarily. Voluntary can be interpreted as; personal awareness to do or participate in a village activity. The purpose of personal awareness is that everyone optimizes the consideration of their common sense in deciding or acting on something. The next meaning, and voluntary means free from threats or intimidation in determining an attitude. This includes the threat of violence and money politics. The voluntary principle is very closely related to human rights and personal sovereignty. Everyone has the right to be free from threats or pressure from other parties. In the village community, this principle is one of the important aspects that must be developed to achieve democratic village life. e). Tolerance is a democratic principle that must be developed more advanced in a village democracy. This principle means an attitude of respect for different attitudes or opinions, without reproach, condescension, or disparagement. Tolerance also means non-discrimination, in a democracy it means isolating someone or a group of people because their identity or circumstances (gender, religion, ethnicity, family, economic level, persons with disabilities, etc.) are unjustifiable actions. In contrast Village democracy is manifested as an empirical space to embrace every element of difference or plurality (plurality) contained in society. f). Humanity or humanism, the notion of democracy places the recognition and guarantee of the dignity of human dignity as the creature of the Almighty God as a basic treatment for humans / village communities. That means that every person or individual in the village must be seen in his noble and noble position as a creature of God. Everyone has the right to be respected, to be respected, to his dignity and recognition. In other words, the act of cornering someone negatively, vigilantism, the omission of violence or even doing it, must be eliminated in the life of the village. In village democracy, the principles of humanity or humanity principles refer to the dignity of human dignity as God's creatures. g). Gender justice, an important principle in village democracy is gender justice. Gender justice must be reflected in village strategic decisions. Highlighting the principles of gender justice in village democracy actually has a line of tradition with gender relations in the village. In village life, the strict distinction between public roles and gender-based domestic roles is precisely unknown. Economic or political activities in the Village are equally carried out by every gender identity, both men and women. This tradition for the village community only needs to be revitalized and packaged in a new spirit to drive democratization. h). Transparent and accountable, the village political process takes place as activities that take place in the interests of the village community. Therefore the village community must know what is happening in the village political process. The principle of transparency means that nothing is hidden from the village community, the ease of accessing information, providing information correctly, both in terms of consultative material or the budget. Village communities also have the right to know about village financial management, from budgeting, allocating and using village finance. By paying attention to several aspects of democracy above, as an effort to build a life of democratization of the village will be able to encourage the realization of good governance.

From the above point of view, a concept was created that strengthens the democratization of the village influencing good governance. For this reason, the following hypothesis is constructed by the relationship between variables, namely:

H₀ = There is an influence between strengthening the democratization of the village towards the implementation of village governance (good governance)

H_a = There is no influence between strengthening the democratization of the village towards the implementation of good governance

Picture 1
Village Democracy Strengthening and Good Governance research structure



RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a quantitative approach to find out respondents' assessments about strengthening village democratization, and implementing good governance. Data was collected through distributing questionnaires to 120 respondents who were randomly selected in 6 Magetan District villages. Each village was assigned 20 respondents by random sampling, which consisted of: village heads, village officials, BPD, LKMD, community leaders, PKK, and the community. Respondents' assessment was measured using a Likert scale with gradations from very positive to very negative, in the form of words such as: a) Strongly agree with a score of 5, b) agree with a score of 4, c) Hesitate with a score of 3, d) No agree with the score 2, and e) Strongly disagree with the score 1. While the method of data analysis uses a regression analysis model with processing through SPSS.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.

Correlation Test

For the hypothesis test, a correlation test between the variables of strengthening village democratization (VX) as an independent variable (good governance) (VY) as the dependent variable is conducted. The correlation test results are as follows:

Table. 1
 Correlation Test Results between the variables of Village Democracy Strengthening
 of Good Governance

		Village Democracy Strengthening	Good Governance
Village Democracy Strengthening	Pearson Correlation	1	.807**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	120	120
Good Governance	Pearson Correlation	.807**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	120	120

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

From the table above, the value of the correlation between the variables of village democracy reinforcement and the variables of village governance is equal to 0.807 with a value of pvalue = 0,000. When compared with the value of $\alpha = 0.05$, it is known that p value = (0,000) < α (0.05). Thus, the hypothesis Ha is accepted, namely there is a correlation between strengthening village democracy with the implementation of good governance.

Regression Test

The results of the regression calculation between the variables of village democracy reinforcement on the implementation of good governance are:

Table. 2
 Regression Test Results between the variables of Village Democracy Strengthening
 of Good Governance

Coefficients ^a						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	17.368	2.790		6.226	.000
	Good Governance	.757	.051	.807	14.866	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Village Democracy Strengthening

From the regression equation ($Y = a + bX$), it can be identified: (1) Constant value of 0.757; indicating that good governance will be constant if the variable of village democracy reinforcement is zero (none), assuming other factors remain or do not change in value. (2) Variables of village democracy strengthening which are worth 17,368 (positive) indicate the influence of village democracy strengthening on the implementation of good governance. If the strengthening of village democracy increases by 1 unit, the administration of good governance also increases by 17,368. Thus strengthening village democracy has a positive influence on the implementation of good governance.

Determination Test.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) is used to measure how far the model's ability to explain variations in the dependent variable (Ghozali, 2006). The test results of the coefficient of determination are:

Table. 3
 Determination Test Results between the variables of Village Democracy Strengthening
 of Good Governance

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.807 ^a	.652	.649	4.530

a. Predictors: (Constant), Good Governance

The amount of Multiple Coefficient of Determination (R Square) is 0.652 or 65.2% which means that good governance can be explained by the variables of strengthening village democracy, while the remaining 34.8% is explained by other variables not explained in this study. Thus strengthening village democracy is an important factor in realizing better village governance, and even 65.2% of the factors that strengthen democracy determine the implementation of good village governance. Strengthening democracy provides an awareness of the importance of the involvement of villagers in the process of implementing village governance. There are two important aspects that can be put forward related to strengthening village democracy, namely; First, the involvement of villagers, especially in the preparation of village development programs, will bring the objectives of the development program closer to the needs of the villagers, so that the villagers can benefit from the results of village development. Second, the involvement of villagers can encourage and improve the function of social control so that it can encourage transparency and accountability in the administration of village governance.

CONCLUSION.

1. Good governance in the performance of village governance still needs to be improved so that the quality of community services is better, centralization of village services by the village head as one of the obstacles in the fast service process.
2. Democratization of the village has not run optimally, the involvement of villagers in the process of preparing village development policies is still limited to submitting suggestions and ideas only and decision making remains the domain of the village head.
3. Strengthening village democratization can be an approach in encouraging the improvement of village government performance, because strengthening the democratization of the village will foster awareness of the villagers of the importance of being involved in the process of implementing village governance.

4. The involvement of villagers can strengthen the function of social control as a counterweight to power, so as to encourage transparency and accountability in the implementation of the functions of the village government.
5. Strengthening village democracy significantly influences efforts to realize good governance in the implementation of village government functions.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest.

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