Tourism Village Community Empowerment Strategy in Supporting the Local Potential of the Village in Magetan Regency (Study Village Tour Genilangit, Poncol, Magetan, East Java)

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the tourism village community empowerment strategy in supporting the local village potential in Genilangit Village, Magetan Regency. This research method uses qualitative and case studies. Data was collected through interviews, observations, and documented data. Informants consist of primary informants and secondary informants. The results of the study indicate that the strategy of empowering the tourism village community in Genilangit Village, Magetan Regency is carried out in three stages, namely first, public awareness of the village's potential which is carried out by door to door socialization. Second, community capacity building is carried out by training both physically and mentally through training or socialization to improve human resources. Third, the provision of power in the form of providing power, authority or opportunities for rural communities to develop and achieve independence. One of these resources is the provision of assistance in the form of plant seeds or trees to the community for development. The impact of community empowerment in the tourist village area is very impactful for the village community. One of them is the declining unemployment rate due to the creation of new jobs, besides that it also adds new income for the community and the migration rate is low because people have the opportunity to develop in their own villages without having to leave the region or abroad.

Keywords

strategy; empowerment; village tourism



I. Introduction

Empowerment is an effort carried out to improve the ability of the community to be more able to meet their needs and be more involved in the decision-making process on an equal basis with others. Empowerment fosters a spirit of independence and creativity to develop with its own strength, not depending on assistance and orders from above as in the centralized policy. With the existence of regional autonomy, it is hoped that a bottom-up approach is expected that aims to mobilize the potential of the community. Furthermore, what will be achieved through this empowerment is an increase in the quality of life of the community in the area (Renoati, 2003).

Based on the Village Law no. 6 of 2014 states that villages have origin rights and traditional rights in regulating and managing the interests of local communities and play a

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role in realizing the ideals of independence based on the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, that the constitutional journey of the Republic of Indonesia, Villages have developed in various forms, so that it needs to be protected and empowered to become strong, advanced, independent, and democratic so that it can create a strong foundation in implementing governance and development towards a just, prosperous, and prosperous society. In fact, there are still many villages that are far from what is guaranteed by the Village Law, there are still many villages that are said to be left behind both in the fields of development, education and technology, so that guarantees are needed to realize a prosperous and independent village according to the Village Law No. 6 of 2014 .Community empowerment is basically a process of growth and development of community power to be involved in various aspects of development in an area. Empowerment can free people from backwardness and poverty, so that people are able to compete with the outside world (Almasri & Deswimar, 2014). Community empowerment has also been described by Payne (Adi, 2012) cited in (Mustangin et al., 2017) that community empowerment is aimed at helping clients gain the power to make decisions and determine the actions they will take related to themselves, including reducing personal and social barriers. In addition, the meaning of empowerment itself is seen as an effort to enable individuals or a community. Where the granting of authority and power aims to make the community independent. In terms of language, empowerment itself comes from the word "daya" which means strength or ability to do a business.

With the concept of community-based tourism, it provides hope and opportunities for local residents to maximize the potential of natural and human resources to balance the role of large-scale tourism business actors. The potential of developing a tourist village has also been realized by the Magetan Regency Government, which in its territory is an area that is famous for having more than five hidden tourism potentials, as well as a special tourist area that is quite well known in the East Java region, namely the Sarangan Lake Area. This finding support Tourism is an industrial sector which is currently got a lot of attention from many countries in the world (Nasution, 2021). The tourism sector has become one of the leading sectors in various countries in the world, including Indonesia as one of the prima donna for foreign exchange earners (Hakim, 2021). Tourism is an industrial sector which is currently got a lot of attention from many countries in the world (Sinulingga, 2021). Starting in 2011, the Magetan Regency Government through the Department of Culture and Tourism has launched a tourism village development program. The development of the tourist village is carried out as part of an effort to build the tourism industry, both natural and cultural tourism, and this concept cannot be separated from the involvement of various stakeholders who contribute to each other based on the competencies they have mastered, one of which is contribution and participation active from the village itself (Verhagen, 1980) in (Abidurrahman & Muktiali, 2018)

One of the tourist villages in Magetan Regency is Genilangit Village. Genilangit Village is a nature and culture-based village located in Poncol District and is located at an altitude of over 1,000m² above sea level. This village has natural tourist attractions such as climbing tours, horticultural tours, outbound tours, cultural tours, artificial tours, culinary tours, educational tours and religious tours. Previously, this village was just a village as usual, with residents working as farmers, grass seekers, market traders and animal breeders such as chickens and cattle. But then some young people in this village were moved to make changes to improve the welfare of the community.

Genilangit Tourism Park is one of the attractions initiated by the Genilangit Village Youth Organization. Through the emergence of this tourist attraction, Genilangit Village finally began to be known by the general public. Genilangit Tourism Object is a tourist attraction that was initiated directly by the Village Youth Organization and its management is also carried out by the village community without any intervention from other parties. Not only the Genilangit Tourism Park, this Genilangit Village also has many tourist objects, both artificial and outbound tours such as Climbing at Jabolarangan Hill, Pendowo Hill, Kukusan Hill, Kendil Hill, Argo Cepu Hill, Sekudi Hill and Cave Tourism at Langu Kempong and Climbing Caves. Tread Sliring Cliffs and Tirtosari Genilangit Waterfall Tours and there are also Educational Tours at Genilangit Batik and Coffee Beds.

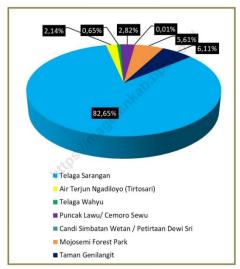


Figure 1. Number of Tourist Visitors in Magetan Regency in 2020 Source: Dinas Pariwisata dan Kebudayaan Kabupaten Magetan (BPS Kab Magetan, 2021)

Based on the data above, it can be concluded that in 2020, Genilangit Tourism Park is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Magetan Regency by the public besides Sarangan Lake and Mojosemi Forest Park. Genilangit Tourism Park is a supporting tourism for Sarangan Lake Tourism, this can be seen from the number of visitors at Genilangit Tourism Park which ranks 2nd after Sarangan Lake Tourism with 6.11% of visitors. However, in that year there was also a decrease in the number of tourist visitors because it was still in the pandemic period so that tourist attractions in Magetan Regency still often applied open and closed.

II. Research Methods

This type of research uses qualitative research. Qualitative research method is a naturalistic research method because the research is carried out in natural conditions (natural setting). Qualitative (Sugiyono, 2017). The research data sources consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data is obtained directly through original sources, in the form of interviews with related parties, while secondary data sources are obtained from indirect data in the form of historical records or reports arranged in archives or documentaries, both published and unpublished. The data collection technique in this study was in the form of direct observation in Genilangit Village, Poncol District, Magetan Regency. Interviews were conducted with the Head of Karang Taruna Giri Putra Bhakti and the Head of Genilangit Village.

III. Discussion

3.1 Strategy for Community Empowerment of Genilangit Tourism Village, Magetan Regency in Supporting the Village's Local Potential a. Public Awareness of the Village's Local Potential

Genilangit Village is a village in Magetan Regency which is located in the highlands and is located quite far from the center of Magetan Regency which is at the foot of the mountain and still has a lot of green land for agriculture and plantations. One of them is the Perhutani land which is used as a campground and an "airsoft gunn" game. But unfortunately in its development, Perhutani no longer manages its land regularly so that these two activities are no longer active. In addition, activities such as taking pine sap are no longer visible. Activities that are still often seen in this Perhutani land area are only residents who go in and out to look for grass for their livestock.

Seeing the condition of unused Perhutani land makes an advantage for the surrounding community. For a long time, people have seen the potential in the Perhutani land, but they haven't found the right moment. In addition, the use of Perhutani's land will also require a large amount of funds so that the lack of funds is also one of the factors that the community is still silent. The lack of capital in terms of the economy ultimately makes people just talk and not reach the management stage. The government itself is also silent even though in Genilangit Village there is actually a lot of potential that can be developed. This is because Genilangit Village is a suburban village located on the slopes of the foot of the mountain so that the natural scenery is still very natural and has not been touched by giant hands.

The first thing that the Giri Putra Bhakti Youth Organization did at the community awareness stage was to intensively carry out socialization. Every time there is an association of citizens or communities they do not waste this opportunity to socialize. They assured the public that with the new tourism object in Genilangit Village, there would be new income for the community and of course it would also create new job opportunities. Slowly the community began to be interested in the ideas and ideas of the youth of Karang Taruna. The purpose of the Karang Taruna youth idea is for the common interest and for the welfare of the local village community.

"In developing this tourist village, we have principles such as the principle of democracy, namely from the people, by the people and for the people, so everything we do is purely from, for, and by the people. People who initiate ideas, people who express ideas, and people who accept the results of these ideas. Of course this is a matter of pride considering that in the past we were so dependent on agricultural and plantation products whose harvests were also uncertain, now we have other income apart from plantation and agricultural products. The existence of this Genilangit Tourism Park also finally provides opportunities for the community to create new income such as making batik for Genilangit typical souvenirs, direct marketing of plantation and agricultural products to tourists with "pick your own" frills, so since this Genilangit Tourism Park exists, The community continues to grow, meaning that what can be sold is sold, what can benefit them, they do". (interview with Mr. Agus, Head of BUMDES and Head of Karangtaruna Giri Putra Bhakti, Genilangit Village, October 18, 2021).

Providing awareness to rural communities is not an easy thing. As stated by Mr. Agus (interview, 18 October 2021) that the village community considers the idea carried out by Mr. Agus and his Karang Taruna friends to be a crazy idea with too high expectations so that many of them are pessimistic about the idea. In addition, the low human resource factor also causes the level of urbanization in Genilangit Village to be so high. Due to the small number of job opportunities, many people end up going abroad and even abroad to earn a more

adequate income. That's the thought that the youth of Karang Taruna Giri Putra Bhakti, Genilangit Village, want to change.

Over time, through door to door socialization carried out by Karang Taruna youth in every village meeting or routine RT meeting, public awareness began to grow to develop the potential of their village. After holding a meeting and discussing further about tourism development in Genilangit Village, an agreement was obtained with the community, the next step was the distribution of land area for each RT. Given that the area of Perhutani's land managed by Karang Taruna is very large, to accelerate the development of the park the land area is divided into each RT. The concept of each RT will be different from other RT's according to the theme of the park. In addition, active activities at the Genilangit Tourism Park are also divided into each hamlet, considering that Genilangit Village has 3 (three) hamlets so it must be divided evenly.

"When working on the land, we Karang Taruna divide the land area per RT, the goal is for all RTs to participate so that everyone feels ownership. So when the land area has been allocated per RT, they are free to express their ideas according to the Genilangit Tourism Park concept." (interview with Mr. Agus, Head of BUMDES and Head of Karangtaruna Giri Putra Bhakti, Genilangit Village, October 18, 2021).

Although not all residents participated in land work, their optimism added new enthusiasm to other residents and fostered their self-confidence to continue to develop and process together for the common good.

In addition to Genilangit Tourism Park, Genilangit Village also has the potential for natural tourism and cultural tourism in Wonomulyo Genilangit Hamlet. In addition, there is potential for climbing tourism at Jabolarangan Hill, Pendowo Hill, Kukusan Hill, Kendil Hill, Argo Cupu Hill, Sekudi Hill and Goa Tourism in Langu Kempong Cave and Tapak Sliring Rock Climbing and Tirtosari Genilangit Waterfall Tour. And Educational Tours in Genilangit Batik, Coffee Beds and Japanese Dodol (Pumpkin Siam) Original Genilangit.

Genilangit Tourism Park was established in 2015 by carrying the natural beauty of nature because it is located on the slopes of Mount Lawu. With the vision "from the community, by the community and for the community" the Genilangit Tourism Park continues to strive to invite the community to play an active role in tourism activities. The missions of the management of the Genilangit Tourism Park are: a) adding new income for the local community, b) increasing human resources (HR), c) increasing public awareness to care about the environment, d) protecting the Genilangit Tourism Park area, e) involving the community in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the performance of the management of Genilangit Tourism Park and f) conducting tourism promotion effectively and intensively.

b. Community Capacity (Capacity Building)

After the community realizes the tourism potential in their village, the next empowerment strategy is community capacity. What is meant by community capacity here is increasing human capacity, organization and value system. Human capacity is carried out through the provision of skills and knowledge about tourism village management and tourism management. Of course, in this case the government's participation is needed. The government must invite, motivate and encourage the community to be able to develop their village so as to improve the welfare of the community without destroying environmental sustainability and local cultural customs.

Community capacity starts from preparing human resources (HR) as tourism actors. Many actors in tourist villages take part in training about the management of tourist villages

organized by various parties. Human resources are the pillars of activities in the Tourism Village, therefore these human resources must be prepared carefully.

Sapta Pesona is a description of the tourism awareness concept related to the support and participation of the community as actors in an effort to create a conducive environment that is able to encourage the growth and development of the Genilangit Tourism Village. One of the elements of Sapta Pesona highlighted in the empowerment of the Genilangit Tourism Village community is the element of Memories or Memories. Where this element is a form of memorable experiences or memories at tourist attractions. The action of these elements can be realized by exploring and elevating the unique potential and local culture as well as providing interesting and unique souvenirs from Genilangit Village as one of the Tourism Villages.

To seize opportunities from this "memories", one of them is by developing MSMEs. From the development of MSMEs, it was then implemented as a program to strengthen human resources (HR) in the management of tourist villages. The program is training in terms of physical and mental training. This physical and mental training is in the form of briefing and socialization which is carried out periodically and continues every year. Physical training includes, firstly, KWT (Female Farmer Group) training. This training was attended by women farmers in Genilangit Village. They are provided with procedures for planting vegetable seeds, ornamental plants, and fruits in polybags. The results can later be traded to tourists or can be used as a nursery and can be visited by tourists.

Second, batik training. In November 2020, through the Magetan Regency Community and Village Empowerment Service in collaboration with the Giri Putra Bhakti Youth Organization and Ms. PKK Genilangit Village, they held a batik training. As it is known that Genilangit Village is also included in the Horticultural tourism area because most of the people are vegetable farmers, especially Pumpkin Siam. The purpose of these activities is to improve human resources through the work of batik and the results can be traded to tourists as souvenirs. In addition, the purpose of this activity is to support the Magetan Regent's program in developing superior local batik products. The Regent of Magetan gave a policy to students and civil servants (ASN) on Thursday to use local Magetan batik uniforms.

The third is embroidery and screen printing training. This training is also carried out to support MSMEs and be able to improve community skills, especially for young people. In addition, with this training, the community can produce typical works of Genilangit Village and can be used as souvenirs for visitors. It is also hoped that this training can open new income for the community so that it can improve the economic welfare of the village community. Screen printing training was also carried out to increase creativity and add soft skills for village youth.

Fourth, graphic design training. This graphic design training was also conducted for the youth of Genilangit Village. As it is known that in this 4.0 era, it requires a person to continue to develop with knowledge, especially in the field of technology and information whose development is also very rapid. These developments must be utilized with the implementation of skills and creativity in creating a work. This graphic design training is a process of learning skills and expertise in the form of Corel Draw and Photoshop which aims to improve skills and mastery of material in designing well.

In 2021 the Genilangit Tourism Village also made an achievement. Through the famous Genilangit Tourism Park, they managed to become one of the finalists in the 2021 Tourism Village Awards organized by the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy (Kemenparekraf) together with BCA. This is a huge achievement considering that the Genilangit Tourism Village has not been around for a long time. There are several interesting places that are included in the assessment, namely Rubber Boat Attractions, River Turbing, Genilangit Tourism Park, Wonomulyo Highland, Selfie Spots, Outbound, Bukit Sekudi

Wonomulyo, Genilangit Camping Ground, Fauna Friends Attractions and Rabbit Catching Vehicles.

c. Powering

At this empowerment stage, the community is given the power, authority, or opportunity to develop to achieve independence. The Magetan District Social Service provided assistance in the form of grant funds, namely tree seeds. The assistance is to support the reforestation program in Genilangit Village, especially in the Genilangit Tourism Park environment. This reforestation is one of the efforts made to preserve nature, especially in forest areas or slopes. This reforestation is continuously carried out by the Genilangit Village Government to ensure that trees can live and provide maximum benefits for future generations. One of the benefits of planting trees on slopes is to prevent natural disasters such as landslides.



Figure 2. One of the Reforestation Activities in Genilangit Village, Magetan Source: Dokumentasi Bapak Pardi Kepala Desa Genilangit

In addition, the PUPR Service also provided assistance in the form of facilitation for repairing infrastructure at the Genilangit Tourism Park. One of them is paving the road in the Genilangit Tourism Park area. This paving of course makes it easier for visitors to access when visiting Genilangit Tourism Park. In addition, the PUPR Service also provided assistance in the form of ornamental plant seeds. These ornamental plant seeds can be developed to be traded back to tourists.

"We actually received a lot of assistance from the government, both in the form of stamp duty and non-stamp assistance, for non-stamp assistance itself, starting from repairing road access, facilitation in the Genilangit Tourism Park area, assistance with tree seeds, ornamental plant seeds, fruit and vegetables. For assistance in the form of stamps, of course we use it for the management of the Genilangit Tourism Park and Tours in Genilangit Village itself. The assistance is a form of support from the government to support the development of the Genilangit Tourism Village". (interview with Mr. Agus, Head of BUMDES and Head of Karangtaruna Giri Putra Bhakti, Genilangit Village, October 18, 2021).

By holding the status as one of the Tourism Villages in Magetan Regency, the village community began to innovate to improve economic welfare. One of them is in the culinary field, people make a typical Genilangit food, namely Dodol Labu Siam. People use the Siamese Pumpkin because the Siamese Pumpkin is a typical vegetable of Genilangit. In addition to being used as a motif on batik, it turns out that people are innovating again by making Siamese pumpkin as a souvenir food. Dodol Labu Siam or commonly called by the people around Dodol Japan is an original product of the people of Genilangit Village. Dodol made from raw materials rich in nutrients is very beneficial for heart and digestive health, helps control blood sugar levels, is good for pregnant women, helps reduce cancer risk, slows signs of aging, maintains liver function and maintains weight. In terms of taste, Japanese Dodol is no less delicious than Garut Dodol.

Over time, the concept of developing the Genilangit tourist village still maintains the community as the main actor in accordance with the initial principle of the establishment of the Genilangit Tourism Park "from the people, by the people, for the people". The Genilangit community, whose majority of the population is a farmer, no longer needs to change professions because the agricultural sector is also integrated as a part of tourism and features typical Genilangit agricultural products in the form of agricultural products such as vegetables and fruits. The tourism village manager tries to present local culture wrapped in tour packages such as home stays, camping ground, outbound, learning batik and culinary packages.

Table 1. Number of Tourist Visits at Genilangit Tourism Park Year 2017 – 2021

Vacation			
No	Year	Number of Visitors	
1.	2017	20.000	
2.	2018	100.000	
3.	2019	75.000	
4.	2020	35.000	
5.	2021	70.000	

Source: Agus Dwi Setiyono, Ketua BUMDes Genilangit, wawancara 18 Oktober 2021

During a period of 5 (five) years, the number of visitors to Genilangit Tourism Park continued to increase, both tourists from within the region and outside the region such as Madiun Raya (Madiun Regency, Madiun City, Ponorogo Regency, Pacitan Regency and Ngawi Regency). 2018 and 2019 were the peak years of tourist visits, which touched 100,000 people and on average there were more than 1,000 visitors every day to Genilangit Tourism Park. This figure has increased rapidly compared to 2017. However, at the beginning of 2020, precisely since the COVID-19 pandemic, tourist visitors at the Genilangit Tourism Park experienced a decline. This is due to the existence of Social Restrictions so that the manager also closed the tourist area in Genilangit Village, especially in the Genilangit Tourism Park according to directions from the government.

From the beginning of the establishment of the Genilangit Tourism Park, the entrance ticket fee has not increased, namely Rp. 5,000, two-wheel parking Rp. 5,000 and four-wheeled Rp. 10,000. The decrease in the number of tourists actually did not reduce the turnover significantly. However, as it is known that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the tourism sector is the sector that has the most impact. In 2020 the decline in the number of tourists and a decrease in turnover because that year was the beginning of the spread of COVID-19 throughout the world and entered Indonesia in March so that for almost a year the Genilangit Tourism Park experienced a total closure and began to reopen in 2021 in accordance with government directives.

Table 2. Turnover of Genilangit Tourism Park in 2017 – 2021

No	Year	Turnover (Rupiah)
1.	2017	Rp 600.000.000
2.	2018	Rp. 2.000.000.000
3.	2019	Rp. 1.5000.000.000

4.	2020	Rp. 300.000.000
5.	2021	Rp. 600.000.000

Source: Agus Dwi Setiyono, Ketua BUMDes Genilangit, wawancara 18 Oktober 2021

Turnover in 2017 was used as capital by building and repairing facilities and infrastructure such as asphalt roads, mosques and park rides. In 2018 and 2019 with a turnover of Rp. The 2,000,000,000 is able to absorb local workers reaching 50 people with a salary equivalent to the UMK of Magetan Regency. In addition, the overall turnover is also profit sharing with Perhutani in accordance with the MoU at the beginning of the establishment of Genilangit Tourism Park and is also returned to the community as the main capital owner of Genilangit Tourism Park.

Another impact of the development of tourist villages is a decrease in the level of migration because tourism activities encourage the emergence of various jobs for the local community. It is known that previously many people from Genilangit village had migrated to other regions and even abroad to look for work, because they thought that if they just stayed in their village they would not be able to prosper their families. However, with the development of this tourist village they no longer need to leave their village to look for work, they have many opportunities to develop in their own village. In addition, there has also been a cultural transformation of livelihoods from agriculture to tourism due to the development of tourist villages however, the transformation of livelihoods did not occur to all villagers.

IV. Conclusion

After growing public awareness of the potential of the village, then the next thing to do is capacity. The capacity of tourism village managers is carried out in the form of socialization and training. This socialization and training is carried out as a form of support from the government or related parties in the process of developing a tourist village. In addition, socialization and training are also carried out for the community to develop human resources as one of the main actors in the development of tourist villages. This is because the level of human resources in Genilangit Village is still low, while one of the supporting factors for the successful development of tourist villages is qualified human resources.

Community empowerment in Genilangit Tourism Village is carried out through three strategies, namely awareness, capacity and empowerment. Awareness is carried out through socialization and deliberation by the Karang Taruna Giri Putra Bhakti of Genilangit Village to the village community to make the community aware of the potential of the village of Genilangit Village. Finally, with the persistence of Karang Taruna in conducting socialization, the community slowly began to agree and participate in contributing to building Genilangit Village as a tourist village through the Genilangit Tourism Park. In addition to Genilangit Tourism Park, the community also determines other potentials that can be explored in Genilangit Village to be developed as a tourist attraction.

Communities that already have the capacity are then empowered to achieve independence. From a physical point of view, there is a lot of assistance from the Magetan Regency government for the construction of tourism supporting facilities. Genilangit Village received a lot of assistance to develop the village as a tourist village. With these various aids, it is hoped that not only Genilangit Tourism Park will be used as a leading tourist attraction, but other tourism objects must also be developed so that it can grow even more beyond Genilangit Tourism Park.

The development of the Genilangit tourist village has an impact on the community. One of them is the declining migration rate because tourism activities encourage the emergence of new jobs for the local village community. In addition, there are several communities who have experienced a cultural transformation of their livelihoods from agriculture to tourism. The development of tourist villages is also a means of new income for the community in addition to income from their livelihoods.

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