



# Infrastructure Development as An Evidence of State's Legitimation at Papua: Phenomenology Study at Sentani District, Jayapura Regency, Papua Province

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## Abstract

Infrastructure development is an evidence of an area's development. The availability of infrastructure like airport, bridge, and road construction will affect investment activities, trade, productivity of the labour, accessibility to job vacancies, and people's prosperity will improve. This is the main reason why infrastructure development is very important. Since becoming the president in 2014, Joko Widodo has been prioritising the development of Eastern Indonesia especially Papua in order to improve the connectivity which causes logistic fees becoming cheaper in Jayapura so people's prosperity can be improved which support the development acceleration at Papua. This also becomes an evidence that the country has a strong legitimation at Papua. From empiric phenomena in the field, several lessons which can be drawn are the existence of the reality of geographical socio-cultural diversity at Papua which is high, so it tends to get closer to specific government system in every area. On the other hand, general issues which have to be faced such as institutional dynamic, authoritative conflict resolution, Human Resources improvement, village's component involvement in village's development process and the application of development strategies, local culture approach, partnership strategy, participatory approach. The approach which is used in this research is phenomenology approach. The result of the research shows that The Planning of Village Development Strategies which is proposed by Local Government is not maximum and it causes not all native Papuans get the advantages of infrastructure development, only outsiders from Bugis and Makassar who can compete to get market place in the modern market and be involved in the development project of infrastructure in Sentani. Other than that, the difficulty of land acquisition with local public figures make indigenous Papuans compete with each other to get as much money as possible. This becomes another challenge to develop the infrastructure.

**Keywords:** Infrastructure development, indigenous Papuans, State Legitimacy

## 1. Introduction

Issues which are faced by Sentani people are related to planning a social work programme is not fully involving themselves in planning the programme because of the lack of knowledge. Some issues

occurring like infrastructure development, activity of competing for market place at modern market, and the difficulty of land acquisition with local public figures make indigenous Papuans compete towards each other to get as much money as possible.

The issue which is studied in this research empirically before Strategic Plans of Village Development (RESPEK), is caused by the absence of development strategy: local culture approach, partnership strategy and participatory approach and also unsynchronised leaderships between formal leadership (Head of Village) and informal leadership (Ondoafi) of villages, formal here means the leader who is appointed by state's law number 32 2004 about village governmental system. The issue of village society development in Papua becomes more popular as more news about different issues happening like the spread of social conflicts in several places which is triggered by several social inequalities in basic infrastructure development including : education, health, economy and infrastructure. One of them is a real phenomenon which almost takes place all over Sentani's villages.

Why it is said so is because by the existence of development strategies: local culture approach, partnership strategy, participatory approach, and the togetherness in the dualism leadership both formal (head of village) and informal (ondoafi) it will give real effect towards village development. Because inside of village development government, private sector, village components (head of village, Ondoafi, RESPEK assisting team in regency level, RESPEK assisting team in district level, person in charge of RESPEK in district level, religious figures, female figures, youth figures and the representative from the village) who are competent, are involved directly in the process of village development.

The failure of the village development programme in the past was caused by the construction, implementation, and evaluation of the development programmes did not involve village components. The development process prioritised centralisation political paradigm and the domination of the state in the society life stream. Why it is said so is because village holds a very strategic role in the national development, most of Indonesian citizens live at villages.

From empiric phenomena in the field, several lessons can be taken which are the existences of the reality of high geographical socio cultural diversity at Papua, so it is expected to approach the specific government system in every area. Other than that, general issues which have to be faced as institution's dynamic, authority conflict resolution, Human Resources' quality improvement, the involvement of village components in village development process and the implementation of development strategies, local culture approach, partnership approach, participatory approach. So the Strategic Plans of Village Development (RESPEK) which is proposed by the Local Government of Papua Province can bring advantages towards village society.

## **2. Literature Review and Hypotheses**

The lack of openness from the head of village towards village development components about various policies of village development. This can be proven by the lack of attention from the head of village which causes programme planning and implementation toward the realisation of RESPEK (Strategic Plans of Village Development) funding which is felt that it is not completely referring to transparency principle from the head of village by involving village development component. Other than that, there is an influence from the environment towards the head of village to work together and there is a particular group which affects the work of the head of village. This can be seen from the village development programmes which are late. While the coordination and communication system between village development component and the head of village has not been done, this is seen from the moment of funds disbursement and the execution of development activity in the village.

In Village Planning Department and village officers, it can be explained that ondoafi has never complained about the planning which is constructed by head of village with Village Planning Department, because it is considered that there is lack of good coordination and communication (Bungin, 2009). This is caused by the absence of coordination system, in recruiting the members of Village Planning Department in village. In line with that, the performance of people chosen by head of village to sit in Village Planning Department (Baperkam) in average do not possess adequate

education background and working experience in processing the strategic issues in village development. The leaders and the society are fully aware that to achieve a success management function needs to be run in a cultural government structure which is the trigger of development in village. Referring to the philosophy of Sentani tribe people which is Kena Embai Umbai which means One Heart One Soul, this is the foundation for the people of Sentani tribe that in the effort of making a social life system which is autonomic come true in the village level is based on local community which is established by the unity of a cultural law society.

### 3. Methods

#### Design Research

The research approach which is used in this research is phenomenology. According to Bungin , it is mentioned that phenomenology basically has a view that what is shown on the surface including human's behaviour pattern is just a phenomenon from what is hidden beneath the doer's head (Bungin, 2009). Reality is subjective in nature depending on the perception, comprehension, understanding, and assumption of an individual. Therefore, appreciation is needed so much to understand different forms of phenomena in the daily life. The design of the research which is used is a descriptive format, where this format is dominantly using phenomenology paradigm and is much more affected by positivistic paradigm. Phenomenology research is oriented to understand, to dig and to interpret the meaning of events, phenomena which are connected to the people who are used to a particular situation. According to Bogdan and Biklen (1982) in Asmadi Alsa (2003) a research with phenomenology approach tries to understand the meaning of an event or phenomenon which affects each other towards humans in a single particular situation (Bungin, 2009).

#### Data Analysis

Data analysis process is referred to phenomenology paradigm like Husert, Weber, Scutz and Berger, also based on interactive model of analysis which was developed by Miles and Huberman (1992). Other than that because the phenomenon which is studied is actually stored in human's conscious world of the doer which depends on conceptual world, its perception, its understanding, knowledge stock, so without understanding the phenomenon it is impossible to understand different data which are needed. Therefore, the data analysis process is needed so much to support Strategic Plans of Village Development (RESPEK).

### 4. Results

Access to Papua Province nowadays is very easy because it has been supported by airlines connecting big cities in Indonesia to Papua Province. Airlines which provide route to Papua are Garuda Indonesia, Sriwijaya Air, Batik Air, Lion Air, Nam Nam Air, Trigana Air, and Xpress Air. To reach Biak, Mimika, Merauke, and Jayapura can be done by hubs from Jakarta, Makassar, Surabaya, and Bali. To reach Wamena can be only done by Jayapura.

Table 1 : Airlines Transportation Support.

City/Region	Airport and Capacity	Aircraft Type
Jayapura	Sentani Airport Runway Length : 2,180 m	B-737
Biak Numfor	Frans Kaisepo Airport – Biak Runway Length : 3,570 m	B-747
Mimika	Mozes Kilangin Airport – Timika Runway Length : 2,390 m	B-737/the same type
Jayawijaya	Wamena Airport Runway Length : 1,825 m	ATR 72, Hercules, C-130, BAE, 146.L
Merauke	Mopah Airport – Merauke Runway Length : 1,850 m	B-737

Source: Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Ministry of Transportation 2004

In supporting infrastructure development in Sentani, element's value of togetherness in village development has not been achieved by all components of village development; this is caused by the lack of openness or transparency from head of village (Bungin, 2009). So the element's value of togetherness which is expected in village development is not shown. Besides, it is added by high ego from head of village which shows that between head of village and components of village development seem to insist on their dignity so there is not enough good communication between those figures although it is admitted that there are good intentions from each component to work together in planning and implementing development programmes in the village.

A cultural society unity which forms a unity of cultural law society in the village level, which is established based on ancestors origin from generation to generation on a cultural area which has an authority towards land and natural resources inside and on it. The culture of people of Sentani tribe has been recognised since the government of The Dutch, where that culture is recognised to be unified to the life system of local society like Sentani language, arts and dances, skills in measurement, the making of traditional boat, processing sago, and the culture of helping each other. Those values need to be kept because it is a precious heritage which needs to be kept and preserved. Besides, it can be proved that the weakness of cultural institution's function of Sentani village. This causes the head of village cannot communicate to cultural institution about Strategic Plans of Village Development and the consequence comes to other components of village development. The hope which is longed from the government is how the element's value of togetherness must be created between the components of village development so later on what is expected can be achieved as the village society's aspiration which can be supported by government's programmes

## **5. Discussion**

### **Supporting Factors of Infrastructures Development**

Based on the information of the data which are related to the lack of head of village's concern towards village components' rights can be explained that the lack of openness from head of village towards village components about different policies of village development, while head of village in doing the realisation of RESPEK funds usage (Strategic Plans of Village Development) has not been done fully referring to transparency principle by involving village components and public figures in the village. This can be concluded that the nature of authority to rule RESPEK funds usage (Strategic Plans of Village Development) by local government in this case is the head of village still needs to involve all components of authority holders of village development from ondoafi to the society.

In making village development come true, it is expected that each head of village so his existence is admitted by village society and outside party and can be competitive in the competition which is taking a place and done with peaceful ways and avoiding conflicts. This way gives effects towards different aspects of life especially social, economy, and education aspects. This thing can be concluded that in a particular social community it needs to be understood completely including cultural norms and their laws which later on are processing to achieve mutual admission so it is developed to be a value system arrangement which is obeyed together. In that context, this is made as the basic reference which needs to be understood by the government before deciding development policy in the moment of the area so in the future there will not be any problem which is left behind by that policy.

### **Obstacle Factors of Infrastructures Development**

The first factor is human resources capability. The capability of human resources at Sentani village is hard to achieve, it is caused by the low level of education of the society in the village which is commonly only graduates of Elementary School and Junior High School, although recently there is bigger attention from the local government to do development from village to city by providing big enough funds. The point here is Strategic Plans of Village Development is not supported by adequate human resources at Sentani area.

The second factors is high caring and responsibility feeling from ondoafi towards the society in villages. The facts which are dug from a deep research related to caring and responsibility feeling of ondoafi in the relation to the authority of policy implementation at the villages has not walked well because the strong or the current local culture which exist at Jayapura region in general and in Sentani area in specific does not run as it is supposed to be. This can be said that the status and the position of informal leadership as Ondoafi Matahari, (tu no) or big ondoafi in the cultural law system society at Sentani which is praised highly, respected, and worshipped by the society is an influence and power in protecting the people to make development process in village come true. By positioning the head of culture as the head of village, it is meant to give a strong guarantee to the high participation of village components in supporting the government's activities and the success of development in village in the result of deep interview has not shown a meaningful development, because of the absence of good communication between government and informal leaders/ondoafi.

The third factors is the lack of openness of head of village towards ondoafi and the society about RESPEK programmes. In the implementation of village development programmes sometimes there is a lack of openness or transparency from head of village, that thing shows the weak coordination and communication between village components. This can mean that in the leadership of each figures in village and government there should be a good intention not to blame on each other and can be said that the chance to collaborate between those village development components are very vacant for achieving a mutual mission in improving Sentani's society prosperity. Tasks and functions of each village components have not been understood, because the head of village does not give any explanation. Based on the recording (data) which is related to the tasks and functions of village development components from the informants focus more towards things which are open in involving themselves directly in the village development process. But the fact is when RESPEK funds are disbursed development components do not longer know their tasks and functions, as the consequence indirectly they do not involve themselves in the village development process.

The fourth factors is the existence of three-furnace system in village (government, ondoafi, and religious figures). The government policy about three-furnace in village can be concluded that there needs to be a government policy which regulates clearly about three-furnace government system in villages. This can be concluded that in configuring Papua's Governor's vision currently which is government's functions are done by three parties with each authority boundary which are: head of village and its components, ondafai (cultural leader) and government so they can rule as mediator in village development by accommodating the origin and the cultures of the local society which can be socialised to village society, so they can understand Strategic Plans of Village Development (RESPEK).

## **6. Conclusions**

Through the discussion done previously, the researcher can conclude that why The Planning of Village Development Strategies which is proposed by Local Government is not maximum. This is caused by the partnership strategy and mutual ownership which have not existed among every component of village development who reside at Sentani. Based on main factors and supporting factors above, it is needed to be explained more specifically related to the main purpose of the research which is understanding roles of each component of village development in planning activities of development at Sentani, Jayapura, understanding the nature of each component of village development towards programmes implementation at Sentani District, Jayapura Regency, Papua Province. That condition causes that not all native Papuans enjoy the infrastructure development, only outsiders from Bugis and Makassar who can compete to get market place at the modern market and be involved in the infrastructure development project at Sentani. Other than that, the difficulty of land acquisition with local public figures make indigenous Papuans compete with each other to get as much money as possible. This becomes another challenge to develop the infrastructure.

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