

Revitalizing Bukit Jaya Towards a Green Global Village

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Villages are strategic places that can accommodate various interests, both social, economic, and ecological. The geographical condition of the village, which is directly related to natural potential, gives the village its advantages. The development of the potential in the village should receive special attention from the government, both at the regional and national levels. Indonesia is a collection of thousands of villages within its territory. So, building the State of Indonesia also means participating in building the villages in it.

It is known that villages are synonymous with backwardness, underdevelopment, and limitations. The stereotypes about villages then indirectly influence the patterns of thought and life of the community. Then, it is not surprising that many people prefer to leave to seek a more economically promising life in big cities. As a result, urbanization becomes inevitable. In 2020, the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) recorded that 56.7 per cent of rural communities moved to the city. Moreover, in a scientific study conducted in 2021 by Inayah Hidayati who works at the Population Research Centre BRIN, it was found that urbanization has caused social impacts in big cities, such as unemployment and increased crime.

In fact, according to Budy P. Resosudarmo, rural development is very important to improve the quality of the economy, human resources, and education. In addition, the prevention of massive migration from villages to cities needs to be done so that development in villages can be implemented optimally. The Government of the Republic of Indonesia has enacted Law No. 6/2014 on village funds. The government of the Republic of Indonesia provides funding independence to the village to manage and optimize the potentials in the village. Funds disbursed to villages are expected to be able to make inclusive policies. The role in making inclusive policies is listed in the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs are a global action plan agreed by world leaders, aiming to end poverty, reduce inequality and protect the environment. In the context of village empowerment, the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is like an oasis amid arid policies in the village. The reason is that villages, which have been known as the antithesis of modern, advanced, and leading cities, have now been able to be empowered through integrated programs in the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thus, rural areas have the space to carry out movements independently and participate directly in national development.

Village SDGs Implementation

Village development is one of the efforts of the government of the Republic of Indonesia in carrying out urban decentralization towards villages. With equitable development, it will reduce poverty levels and erode social inequality. This is in line with the opinion of Rostow (2000: 25) who states that development is a process that moves in a straight line, namely from a backward society to a developed society.

To achieve progress, development in rural areas must not only accommodate all existing aspects. However, it must also have an impact on sustainable aspects. The concept of sustainable development, as explained in the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), includes Environmentally Concerned Villages, Villages Without Poverty, Quality Village Education, Dynamic Village Institutions and Adaptive Village Culture.

The concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has had a positive impact on the development of rural areas in Indonesia. One of them is Bukit Jaya Village, located in Musi Banyuasin Regency, South Sumatra province. Bukit Jaya Village, which is 110.64 km from Palembang City (the capital of South Sumatra Province), is one of the villages that has adopted the SDGs concepts in its development.

Development in Bukit Jaya Village stems from the community's awareness of the importance of protecting and preserving nature for the future. If seen further, the community's view of nature as a living space for all creatures is the spirit of development in Bukit Jaya Village. Amidst the upheaval of development based on modernization that tends to be exploitative and history, the Bukit Jaya Village Government provides space so that nature and humans can benefit each other.

The awareness of sustainable development in Bukit Jaya Village is implemented through village programs such as utilizing organic waste in compost. Then, the fertilizer is used to fertilize the community's plantation crops. This is one of the many forms of sustainable green development in Bukit Jaya Village. In addition, Bukit Jaya Village also utilizes inorganic waste in handicrafts with economic value, reforestation through tree planting, and food security programs as an effort to create food independence in the village.

Then, to control drought and flooding, the Pesa Bukit Jaya Government conducts infiltration with biopores and terraces and builds good drainage, and there is also the utilization of livestock manure into biogas which is used by the community for cooking. All of these are a form of community awareness of the importance of maintaining a healthy environment. From the maximum efforts made by the Bukit Jaya Village Government, Bukit Jaya Village has achieved achievements and appreciation from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, as a recipient of the 2020 Main Climate Village Program (Proklam) award.

In addition, the spirit of development in Bukit Jaya Village is also seen in the aspect of education. To provide quality education, Bukit Jaya village presents a village library as an alternative educational locus used for social learning. Through the village library, which utilizes the abandoned Village Unit Cooperative (KUD) building, the Bukit Jaya Village Government has succeeded in providing access for the community to freely learn and access various types of literacy, ranging from children's learning books, history, agriculture, law and others.

More than that, the Bukit Jaya Village Government tries to provide an applicative space through a social inclusion-based library program which is an implementation of the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia Regulation Number 3 of 2023 concerning the transformation of libraries based on social inclusion. The community not only utilizes the library as a reading space but also as a place for self-development to improve the quality of life and community welfare.

Through the program, the library is expected to be more than just a quiet place surrounded by stacks of books. Furthermore, the library should be a place to produce bright ideas for the progress of the village. Such as the local potential utilization program initiated by the Bukit Jaya Village Government together with the community, which utilizes local plants in herbal medicine, the moringa program, and increasing community capacity in the field of Science and Technology (Science and Technology). So, it is not surprising that in 2020 Bukit Jaya Village won the National Champion in the Best Village Library competition in 2020.

In other fields, in response to the rapid advancement of technology, Bukit Jaya Village revitalized the performance pattern of the village government by switching from conventional

to digital mediums. The Bukit Jaya Village Government maximizes various social media platforms such as the use of websites, Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, and WhatsApp as a medium for disseminating information to the community. Thus, all forms of information related to the Bukit Jaya Village agenda can be accessed openly by the community. In 2022 Bukit Jaya Village succeeded in entering the 10 best national villages in managing public information disclosure.

Exploring Village Potential

According to the Independent Village Index in 2023, there are 15.42 per cent of villages categorized as independent villages, 31.00 per cent as developed villages, 38.68 per cent as developing villages, 9.07 per cent as underdeveloped villages, and 5.83 per cent as very underdeveloped villages. This indicates that there is still a lot of village potential that has not surfaced. If the potential of villages throughout Indonesia can be maximized, then efforts to make Indonesia a self-sufficient country will be easily and quickly implemented.

The local potential in the village has a big role in supporting the progress of the village, but it must be accompanied by a competitive spirit and motivation to excel from each community. Building public awareness to care and be involved in advancing the village does require a long process and the right formula, amid the diversity of characteristics and priorities of the community, a leader who can accommodate all individual interests and common interests is needed.

Just like the progress that occurred in South Korea, the movement of change known as the Semaul Undong movement succeeded in bringing villages in South Korea to prosperity. The Semaul Undong movement, which was initiated by President Park Chung Hee in 1970, was motivated by the war that destroyed South Korea's economy and infrastructure, this movement was transformed into a successful locomotive that brought South Korea to success and recovered from the post-war downturn.

The Semaul Undong movement, which was well conceptualized, started development by identifying the main problems or needs that must be addressed by rural communities, including improving the community's living environment, increasing income, and improving habits or behaviour in society. The success of Korea is identified by the increase in farmers' income, the ability to absorb labour and increased investment in rural areas. So, it can be said that the success of the Semaul Undong movement is inseparable from two things, first, there is a collective awareness in the community to bakti from adversity, and second visionary leadership.

This kind of movement should be able to inspire development in Indonesia because historically Korea and Indonesia have similarities. In addition to having similarities from a historical aspect, Indonesia has the advantage of rich natural resources, therefore it becomes a deep reflection for all Indonesian people to jointly think about how to explore and maximize the local potential that exists in all regions of Indonesia.

As has been done by Bukit Jaya Village, which maximizes the potential in the region through digitalization and optimizes regional potential for sustainable development. The regional potential owned by Bukit Jaya Village can provide positive value and the spirit of village independence. All of this is based on motivation and awareness to continue working in advancing the village. Such a spirit must be nurtured and transmitted to other villages throughout Indonesia so that it becomes an important capital to create the excellence of the Indonesian Nation.

In the concept of participatory development, rural development does not only place villages as objects of development. However, it also strengthens the position of villages as subjects involved in determining the form and direction of policies independently. Thus, villages can advance and contribute not only at the national level but also participate in global development.