

The Influence of Community Participation on Public Policy in Nagari Tanjung Alai in 2023

Dewi Dahlan, Refa Yulia

Universitas Islam Negeri Mahmud Yunus Batusangkar, Indonesia

Correspondence: dewidahlan@uinmybatusangkar.ac.id

Abstrak: Community participation is an important aspect in designing democratic public policies. Community participation takes the form of contributing ideas and opinions as well as supporting policies proposed by the government. The aim of this research is to determine the impact of community participation on public policy in both democratic and authoritarian country contexts. The research method used is a literature review and analysis of secondary data from various sources related to the topic. This study shows that community participation can have a significant impact on the policy-making process. Community participation can increase political legitimacy, strengthen government accountability, and strengthen the representation of community interests in the political process. However, there are also several factors that can influence the effectiveness of community participation, such as government openness, access to information, and freedom of expression. In addition, public participation in the context of an authoritarian state is often limited by political control and state repression of critical voices. Therefore, this research highlights the importance of community participation in the policy-making process as a mechanism to strengthen democracy, improve policy quality, and ensure fair and inclusive representation of the interests of the Masu community. Further research is needed to examine the factors that influence the effectiveness of public participation and strategies to increase public participation in the public policy process.

1. Introduction

Today, we need to go further to properly evaluate government operations. Implementation of regional government, especially in districts and cities. This step involves developing explicit participation requirements as part of the policy development process. A country cannot develop unless one of its three components (government, society, private sector) fulfills its role or function. Since the Indonesian reform period until now, the Indonesian government has attempted to improve education in order to form a democratic political system. The previous New Order government had succeeded in institutionalizing political power. During this period, people are often encouraged to inspire change. Simply put, the core of political change at that time required community participation in the formulation of public policy, and such a pattern was called community participation. Since the reform era, Indonesia has

attempted to create a democratic political system that prioritizes community participation in the formation of public policy. Community participation in public decision making is an important aspect in a modern democratic system. Community participation allows citizens to take part in determining the direction of policies that affect their lives.

However, in many countries, public participation in public policy is still relatively low. The shift in policy making from top-down to bottom-up highlights the importance of input from the public. Participation has become a common term and is known to the public, especially political actors. Participation must be encouraged, especially after the passing of Law no. 22 of 1999 became Law no. 32 of 2004. As is the case with public policy, participation has different meanings depending on each person's background, understanding and interests. This phenomenon of low public participation can be caused by various factors, such as: Lack of public awareness of the importance of participation, inability of the public to access the necessary information, or lack of mechanisms that allow public participation in decision making. manufacturing process. Community participation itself is defined as the participation of a group of community members in the process of identifying problems and possibilities that exist in society, the selection and decision making process, as well as community participation in the ongoing evaluation process. as long as the policy is interpreted. The series of actions carried out have a specific purpose and are carried out or carried out by an actor or group to solve a certain problem. Community participation itself aims to check whether program implementation is transparent. Community participation can provide a better basis for determining public policy and guarantee more effective implementation, because the community is aware and involved in the process. Opportunities for active participation expand people's knowledge and skills, and promise a better future.

By understanding the factors that influence public participation and finding effective strategies to increase that participation, this research can make a positive contribution to efforts to strengthen democracy and improve society. The resulting results are expected to ensure that these actions truly reflect the interests and desires of the whole community. During the New Order government, public policy making was often carried out entirely by the government in a technocratic manner. In addition, the policy-making process only relies on experts from the center, does not really pay attention to the wishes of local communities, and local governments are not involved. There is little public discussion that provides political input. As a result, they have become a "truly silent majority," constantly in a depressed mood and unable to proactively advance local initiatives. However, when the reform era began, public participation exploded. However, because our society is culturally and institutionally unaccustomed to democracy, this increased participation often has negative or destructive consequences. Expressing people's aspirations in the form of demonstrations aimed at establishing or changing public order often results in acts of anarchy and violence. The success of the program depends on direct and indirect community participation in the process. Participation means not just being involved or taking part,

but also fostering a sense of proper participation in the political process. A distinction must be made between participation as mere participation and participation as a form of awareness. Participation that is mere participation is a form of pseudo-participation. In contrast, conscious participation aims to achieve more fundamental changes in the political process. Many studies show that over time, apart from government initiatives, there is a tendency for the emergence of various communication forums and widespread community participation in many cities and districts in Indonesia. This understanding is fundamental in the context of participation. In making policy decisions, the Indonesian government often carries out comparative studies with other regions rather than carrying out policy consultation efforts as is the case in other regions in Indonesia. Therefore, research on public participation in public policy becomes relevant and important. This aims to identify factors that influence the level of community participation in public policy and identify strategies to increase community participation in the decision-making process.

2. Method

The method used is qualitative. In addition, data is obtained through books, journals, and scientific articles that can be trusted. This data is processed, which is then processed and analyzed to see community participation in public policy in Nagari Tanjung Alai.

3. Discussion

In fact, the concept or term participation is very general and has been known for a long time in various scientific literature. However, this has only been discussed as a concept and operational practice since the 1970s, when several international organizations promoted the practice of participation in development planning and implementation. There are various forms and types of participation, and those that are particularly relevant to the practice of developing a democratic society include 1) political participation and 2) social participation. Political Participation is often defined as the interaction between individuals or organizations (usually political parties) and the state. Therefore, political participation is often associated with political democracy, representation, and indirect participation. Social participation is currently often interpreted as social participation in development projects. This participatory model was commonly used during the New Order regime. In other words, although social participation is often understood as community involvement in mutual cooperation in independent government development projects, in reality participation is not always the community's right to work together with the government to do so. to help you learn and receive from the government. In fact, social participation is more precisely defined as an organized effort by various groups and movements, hitherto neglected in their supervisory role, to increase their control over the resources and regulatory institutions in a particular social context.

In this sense, participation is outside the state or formal government institutions. This concept can be called social participation because it exists outside the state and formal government institutions. Furthermore, participation is defined as the involvement of the community, especially those who are considered as beneficiaries of development, in consultation and decision making at all stages of the development cycle, from needs assessment, planning and implementation to program monitoring. There are also evaluations such as There are two patterns of mobilizing community participation in public policy making in the democratic era which have recently begun to be implemented in the country, namely indirect participation, for example through participatory mass media. (print and electronic) and direct participation through mediation structures.

However, it should be noted that each of these participation patterns has its own advantages and disadvantages. On the other hand, participation can also be divided into operational participation (of an operational nature) and advisory participation. Participation is considered manipulative because the government provides false information to the public. However, Schilman states that practitioners generally accept the idea that manipulation is primarily manipulation, not participation. Consultative participation means participation where the government collects suggestions and criticism before making a decision. Unfortunately, these consultations are often just a formality or simply a means of legitimization.

Because, in reality, suggestions and criticism from the public are not taken into consideration in making decisions. 1) Indirect Participation Participation through mass media is a form of indirect participation. Communication media is basically divided into two forms: print media (newspapers, magazines, tabloids, etc.) and electronic media (radio, television, internet, etc.). These two forms of communication media are the result of advances in communication technology and secretly have great importance in expanding the communication area, connecting cultures, connecting various interests, and connecting culture and space. However, it must be acknowledged that advances in communication technology have expanded the role of society in political participation. The political process is no longer only linked to the spatial dimension through direct discussions, but also to the temporal dimension. In Indonesia, public debate is often carried out through interactive talk shows on radio and television. This is clearly a political process mediated by electronic communications technology. Democratic political systems gain support through the development of communications technology because political processes can be moved from physical to public spaces. The expansion of the public sphere through advances in communications technology can be seen as a way to make political institutions more efficient in supporting democracy. The most basic problem is that access to print and electronic media is not owned equally by all citizens, which can distort the formation of public policy.

This inequality is caused by problems of poverty and illiteracy in some communities, and if not addressed will give rise to political problems. Therefore, there is no other alternative but to channel supportive communication well and include it in

the formulation of all public policies so that it can be accessed by all levels of society. 2) Direct participation. Direct participation is defined as the participation of many people who use public physical space for the purpose of articulating their interests. Direct participation can take the form of participation in public physical spaces such as the DPR building, meeting halls, or open fields. One example is the negotiations that take place in the DPR building between the community and the executive or legislative to reach an agreement on a particular policy.

Regional Government policy is contained in Law No. 22/1994, although its implementation is effective, it is still controversial (Law number 25: 1999). The controversy centers on several things whether regional autonomy brings significant changes, especially to guarantee the democratic process and justice. More specifically regarding inter-regional justice, whether autonomy is not in accordance with the old pattern which is basically a uniformity mechanism. Therefore, it is worth asking whether this policy will really guarantee regional growth and make local energy reliable for the natural development of local communities. whether regional autonomy will be a means of increasing community participation or vice versa. There is a possibility that regions will still receive contributions from the central government and are in the stage of implementing autonomy at the level of mutual decentralization. This means that the implementation of autonomy in these regions is limited because resources still need to be developed, and the center or state must continue to act as a pillar. On the other hand, regions are already at the cooperative decentralization stage, where regions already have autonomy in managing their regions, but there are still matters of cooperation with the center.

On the other hand, several regions are already at the stage of true decentralization, where most of the government administration is completely handed over to the regions affected by the disaster. Basically it is clear that autonomy is a form of updating the old centralized system. With autonomy, it is hoped that diversity can be understood and encouraged. To support implementation by the state and village development, financial support from the government is needed, one of which is currently in the form of Village Fund Allocation (ADK) (Basri, 2021). The facts revealed in the investigation show that the authority and rights of the Village to manage the Village according to the wishes of the residents living in the Village are still artificial and there are many obstacles in its implementation. In fact, the aspirations and needs of village communities, which are developed through holding village meetings, are not taken into account by policy makers at higher levels and systems due to limited budgets and suggestions from villages. Community is not a development priority and is not in line with the District Strategic Plan. In practice, the organization of village councils often does not reflect the spirit of deliberation which is participatory and dialogical in nature, but still prioritizes formal administrative aspects in the sense that there is a tendency to implement programs. Organizing deliberations has not yet developed into a realistic and friendly democratic forum for village residents, especially the poor and women. , farmers and other marginalized groups. The voices of poor and marginalized groups are

excluded and not considered in determining priorities for development programs and activities in villages. Other factors and obstacles that can be identified as causes include: Village needs surveys were never developed; there are no facilitators to lead participatory and inclusive planning forums at the neighborhood and village levels; lack of consultation methodology; Information on the preparation process for the organizational team of Village Musrembang Participants.

Especially in the village of Tanjung Alai, the mayor of the village there also conducted something called musrembang, where the techniques used were to make invitations to the community to attend the musrembang meeting, and after all the community had gathered, it was followed by a deliberation event and each community was given the right to express opinions and express aspirations regarding public policy. In the Musrenbang everything is discussed starting from PERNA (Nagari Regulations), the policies that will be issued, Tourism, and what the Nagari will look like in the future. And the policies issued by the nagari can be said to be in accordance with community participation, however there are several things that are not appropriate due to limited funds

4. Conclusion

Community participation in the public policy making process has a significant influence on the legitimacy and effectiveness of policies. Community participation increases the legitimacy of policies because it involves those who will be directly affected by the policy in the process of making it. Additionally, communities have first-hand knowledge and experience of local issues that policymakers may not be aware of, and can provide valuable perspectives. Community participation can also increase community involvement in the policy-making process, so that policies are made that are more in line with community needs. In the context of democracy, community participation is very important in creating good governance and increasing government accountability. And in the Tanjung Alai village, it could be said that the public policies issued by the village government are based on existing community participation, but of course some policies are not appropriate due to a lack of village funds. But you could say it's quite right on target.

References

- Aminoto.1997 "ten notes on the implementation of regional autonomy" in popular sovereignty, 26 March 1997
- Budiman Arif.2001 "State and Civil Society" Jakarta: Kompas
- Ien Ang. 1994."In the realm of uncertainty: the global village and capitalist postmodernity, London, polity pass
- Josef Riwo Kahu. 1998. "prospects for regional autonomy in Indonesia" (Yogyakarta: Fisipo UGM)