

## Building Collective Awareness of Self-Help on the Empowerment of PNPM-MP Participatory-Based

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### Abstract

*This study aims to analyze the implementation building of local community empowerment and self-help in order to provide paradigm solutions based on participative empowerment. Especially on the programs that directly touch the bottom community with the bottom up model. This research uses a qualitative approach with qualitative descriptive research type. Key informants were determined by using purposive sampling technique. Because the approach used is qualitative, the main instrument is the researcher himself using in-depth interview guides, participatory observation, and documentation. In order to obtain data degrees of confidence and certainty, then in checking the validity of the data it used triangulation technique. The result of the research shows that community perception toward PNPM program implementation is a program with funding from government which require self-supporting volunteers both energy and fund, although it is felt by society but it can generate collective awareness in self- help.*

**Keywords:** Community self-help, Empowerment, Participation, Perception, PNPM-Mandiri Perkotaan

### 1.Introduction

The government has allocated enormous amounts of funding in the process of community empowerment. To strengthen the process, Law No. 6 of 2014 on the village was established, one of the missions is strengthening the empowerment of rural communities(State Secretariat, 2014). Often governments change the pattern of empowerment makes the spirit and direction of empowerment difficult to meet the target achievement. Optimizing local potentials becomes difficult to maximize. Society should be the subject of development efforts, certainly with the right steps of empowerment (Siswanto, 2016; Tri Winarni, 1998).

Community empowerment requires a direct touch of community participation. Participatory development should grow from the community, organized consciously and independently by the community and the results are enjoyed by the whole community. As implemented by PNPM Mandiri Perkotaan with participative principles that include: (i) environmental activities, (ii) social activities and (iii) economic activities

The basic design of the PNPM-Mandiri Perkotaan program that is practiced for rural communities certainly has many disadvantages as well as having its own advantages. Because the culture of villages and cities is very different, it requires different treatment, even between villages as well (Adisasmita, 2013; Rahayu & Budi, 2010). The implementation of the existing *tridaya* program in PNPM-MP requires the existence of self-funding.

Every society has a different concept of self-promotion based on community agreement. Fulfillment of the number of self-help in infrastructure development compared with social and economic power tends to occur in various regions in Tulungagung District East Java Province. The community has local wisdom in implementing the PNPM-MP program, especially in the fulfillment of self-help which is one of the requirements of PNPM-MP implementation.

This study examines the empowerment model undertaken by the villagers of Pulotondo through the PNPM-MP *tridaya* program in building collective self-awareness to be a positive input on participatory community based empowerment. So far, researches on participatory based empowerment have studied more about model and impact of empowerment. Meanwhile, empowerment strategies, and participation policy (Effendy, 2015; Fallis, 2011; Kusumandari, 2011; Nasrullah, 2013; Soesanta, 2013; Sulur, Musa, Tahmir, Ramli, & Dirawan, 2015) has not touched self-help as a small aspect of successful empowerment. Self-help is important to explore as a form of attitudes shown and active participation of the community in self-empowerment.

## 2. Methods

This research uses a qualitative approach with qualitative descriptive research type (Moleong, 2003) because the data collected relates to community perceptions of participatory based empowerment in building collective self-awareness. The research was conducted in the village of Pulotondo which has a unique character and has success in building self-help awareness based on local wisdom in the implementation process of empowerment in the program PNPM- Mandiri Perkotaan. Key informants were determined by using purposive sampling technique. There were 10 people were chosen with some considerations such as the informants must master the problems, and became parts of the focus of the study. Because the approach used is qualitative, the main instrument is the researcher himself using in-depth interview guides, participatory observation, and documentation (Arikunto, 2006; Creswell, 2007; Soegiyono, 2010; Suwandi, 2008). In order to obtain data degrees of confidence and certainty, then in checking the validity of the data it used triangulation technique. Denzin (1978) distinguishes four kinds of triangulation as a scanning technique utilizing the use of sources, methods, investigators, and theories (Moleong, 2003). This study uses source triangulation as a technique to check the validity of its data (Creswell, 2007).

## 3. Results/ Discussion

The results of the research on the perception reality of Pulotondo villagers in the implementation of the PNPM- Mandiri Perkotaan and *tridaya* program can be demonstrated by various findings and discussed as follows:

3.1 The PNPM-MP *tridaya* program is an environmental, economic, and social capacity-building program designed by the government to empower itself through direct management by the community as a volunteer with government grant funding implemented directly by the Non-Governmental Groups (KSM)

PNPM-Mandiri Perkotaan carries three basic empowerment: environmental improvement, community micro-economic strengthening, and social welfare improvement. From the program, it is hoped that the community, especially the group of activity beneficiaries (KSM) is really willing to participate actively in the range of programs offered. A good understanding of the proclaimed program can have a positive effect on the ongoing activities, because this program relies heavily on the participation of NGOs. From them the whole series of activities can be carried out with guidance from Badan Keswadayaan Masyarakat (BKM).

KSM and BKM as implementers of the empowerment program in Pulotondo have a positive perception, visible activity and effectiveness of the use of grant funds from the government is organized systematically. The description of knowledge, understanding, and response to the series of programs is so well suited to the concept that has been proclaimed from the program. So that administratively planning up to the reporting of activity program can be run along with good perception by KSM and BKM.

Perceptions Building of empowerment programs owned by the village community Pulotondo viewed from the perspective of empowerment Winarni (Tri Winarni, 1998), shows that the positive perception is a very supportive implementation of the stage of awareness and job-description. So, to enter the empowerment stage as the goal of empowerment is only a package of work programs offered to achieve independent empowerment. And it is suggested by Chambers (1996) to keep on sustainable empowerment (Siswanto, 2016).

Direct community involvement to empower their potential provides a significant effect of change on community behavior patterns. Awareness in increasing the self-capacity of the empowerment makes every programs associated with PNPM-MP and others have a high level of success effectiveness

3.2 Public perception of PNPM-MP program is a program that must involve active participation, both material and immaterial although it is felt very hard but able to grow awareness and mental to build community.

Being a volunteer must be very heavy, especially must be required to participate actively in the whole series of empowerment activities. The condition is experienced by PNPM-MP Program volunteers who are members of PKBKM as the executor as well as controlling the sustainability of the empowerment program.

Empowerment model with participative principle demands volunteer of all parties. The concept of volunteers leads to a willingness to provide both material and immaterial voluntary assistance. The volunteer demands on PNPM-MP are so high that BKM and KSM are in need of serious support from related institutions, especially the village government, to synergize in all matters. Suryono (2010) explains in human development paradigm needs to focus on social service, social learning, empowerment, ability, and also institutional (Siswanto, 2016). Davis (1977) clarified the argument by ensuring that if we want to participate in community empowerment it must really involve emotionally and mentally to encourage groups to achieve their goals and responsibilities (Tri Winarni, 1998).

KSM and BKM have a big contribution to the success of empowerment of PNPM-MP program. Their self-help participation is not only energy and mind but in every program they also participate in the form of self-financing. They do these to provide a pilot as well as build peoples' mental to care about the environment where they are. Moreover, they are mentally ready to participate in any empowerment for their welfare

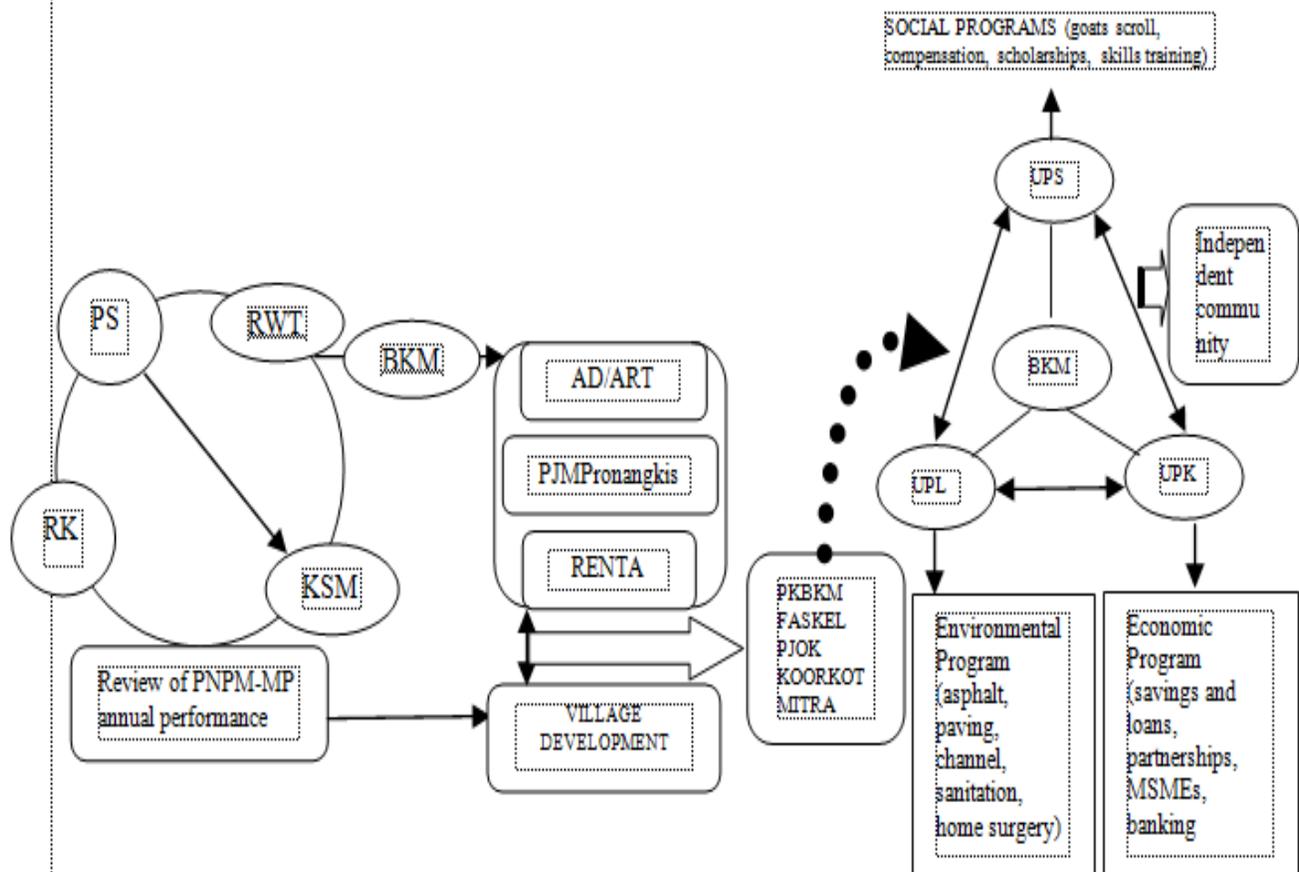
The concept of KSM and BKM in building awareness and mental community through self-help participations are able to provide improvement in understanding as well as a supportive attitude response. As the results of the empowerment, they enjoy better quantity and quality that they have when it is compared to other similar empowerment models

3.3 The demand of self-help in PNPM Mandiri Perkotaan empowerment isto build the local wisdom of the community in self-awakening with collective awareness

The objective of *tridaya* program that PNPM-MP carries out is to create an independent community through capacity building in the economic, social and environmental sectors. Each implemented program requires the participation of local communities. In the empowerment of self-help participation is considered as an important component, because it is able to provide understanding and awareness to cooperate and even generate sense of belonging to the series of programs implemented.

The willingness of attitudes and awareness of the community in participating in self-help and funding reflects people's perception of empowerment is very positive, and it is possible to increase the quality of existing empowerment. Gordon W. Alport explains the concept of participation as follows. "The person who participates is ego involved instead of merely task invilved" (Tri Winarni, 1998). While Edi Suharto strongly emphasized the importance of community involvement in empowerment because according to him: "Communities must participate in their own empowerment because the goals, means and results must be formulated on their own. The level of community awareness is key in empowerment, as knowledge can mobilize actions for empowerment change also involves access to resources and the ability to use these resources effectively "(Suharto, 2014).Meanwhile, in the participation Sastropetro (1988) explained the important elements that must exist as follows:1. Changes in attitudes, opinions and behaviors caused by understanding that fosters awareness. 2. Consciousness based on calculation and judgment.3. Willingness to do something that grows from within herself without being forced by others.4. A sense of responsibility towards common interests (Tri Winarni, 1998).

Figure 1. formulation of the stages of planning, implementing and evaluating the utilization of BKM funds in the PNPM-MP strategic program towards the independent community of Pulotondo village



Source: primary data on PNPM cycle stages and basic principles of PNPM-MP

#### 4. Conclusion

The implementation of the PNPM-MP *tridaya* program is a community capacity building program with government funding that requires self-help volunteers. Good perception has an important role to the success of empowerment, because it provides knowledge, improves understanding, and also fosters attitude to realize the importance of empowering and the potential of self and the surrounding community. The PNPM-MP Tridaya Program implemented by community volunteers through the Self-Help Groups (KSM) and (BKM) which requires the participation of self-help is perceived by the community but is able to build collective self-awareness. To achieve maximum results, KSM together with BKM Wahana Sejahtera Pulotondo village in the process of empowerment began by building awareness and mental building community through the active participation of the community with self-help, mind and funding. The awareness and mental improvement of the community has a positive effect on the community of Pulotondo because in addition to improving the quantity and quality of empowerment, it also builds collective self-awareness for every existing empowerment program in society.

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