

ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOLLI TOURISM VILLAGE, TUKAMASEA VILLAGE, BANTIMURUNG DISTRICT, MAROS REGENCY

Rahmaniar*, Edison²

^{1,2} Tourism Destination, Vocation, Hasanuddin University

*) corresponding author

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Abstract

Community involvement in the development of the Dolli Tukamasea Tourism Village, located in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency, is a crucial component in efforts to achieve sustainable development. This study aims to assess the extent of community participation in the development of the Dolli Tukamasea Tourism Village. A descriptive qualitative method is employed, utilizing both primary and secondary data sources. Data collection techniques include interviews, observation, and documentation. The theoretical framework is based on Josef Riwu Kaho's (2007:127) model of community participation, which encompasses four types of participation: (1) Participation in decision-making, (2) Participation in implementation, (3) Participation in evaluation, and (4) Participation in benefit-sharing. The findings of the study indicate that community participation in the development of the Dolli Tukamasea Tourism Village is highly effective. Firstly, participation in decisionmaking is conducted through deliberative processes where community members share their opinions and input on program decisions related to the village's development. Secondly, participation in implementation involves the active engagement of all community members in the development efforts. Thirdly, participation in evaluation is evident as the community collectively strives to innovate and assume responsibility for the village's progress. Lastly, participation in benefit-sharing is realized as the economic benefits of the tourism village are felt by the local community, contributing positively to their livelihoods.

1. INTRODUCTION

A tourism village is a rural area possessing specific characteristics that qualify it as a tourist destination. In these locales, the inhabitants often preserve relatively authentic traditions and cultural practices. Additionally, unique culinary offerings, agricultural systems, and social structures contribute to the distinctive character of a tourism village. Beyond these factors, pristine natural environments and well-preserved ecosystems are paramount for any successful tourist destination (Yoeti, 1996).

Currently, tourism villages have become a priority development agenda for the Indonesian central government due to their potential to provide more dynamic and diverse tourist destinations. Ideal tourism development should prioritize environmental conservation while involving both government agencies and local communities (Palimbunga, 2018). The development of tourism villages has several positive impacts, including job creation for local residents, increased understanding of tourism, and improved local economic conditions.

The emergence of tourism villages in the tourism sector has introduced new options for tourists. These villages not only offer opportunities to appreciate natural beauty but also provide firsthand experiences of rural life and culture (Afrellia, 2024).

The development of tourism villages necessitates active participation from local communities at all stages as primary stakeholders. Tourism development that actively involves the community aims to empower the community, improve their economic conditions, and increase local government revenue. Theoretically, the more active a community is in tourism activities, the more job opportunities will be available, leading to increased community income. Therefore, the government should strive to encourage community participation to address economic issues. To facilitate community participation, the government should provide necessary facilities, create platforms for community involvement, and provide guidance and instructions so that communities understand the appropriate level of participation and how to participate (Lutpi et al., 2016).

According to Ika, as cited in Lestari (2024), community participation is crucial in the development of tourism villages to ensure that local cultural values are preserved and environmental quality is maintained. Effective participation involves coordination among stakeholders and synergistic involvement from government, private sector, and local communities. Community involvement is manifested through monitoring and controlling the development of tourism villages and participating in the formulation of the village's vision, mission, and development goals. Community participation in tourism village development requires significant attention, especially in the context of long-term development.

Based on data from the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy in 2024, the target is to develop 6,000 villages in Indonesia into tourism villages. The Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy recorded 4,674 tourism villages domestically in 2023. Notably, South Sulawesi has the highest number of tourism villages in Indonesia, with 480.

One of the currently developing tourism villages in South Sulawesi is Dolli Tourism Village. Located in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency, Dolli is a beautiful village with expansive rice paddies and karst mountains, blessed with an abundant natural spring. This spring irrigates the rice fields and serves as a water source for the Dolli swimming pool, Dolli suspension bridge, and fishing pond. Adopting an agritourism concept, the clear spring water sets this location apart from others.

According to the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy's categorization in 2021, tourism villages are classified into four levels: 1. Emerging Tourism Village: Still in the potential stage, without products or tourist visits. Infrastructure is very limited, and community awareness is low. 2. Developing Tourism Village: Although still potential, it has begun to attract attention for further development. Developing tourism villages can already accommodate visitors. 3. Advanced Tourism Village: The community is tourism-aware, indicated by their ability to manage tourism businesses, including utilizing village funds to develop tourism potential. The area is visited by many tourists, including foreigners. 4. Independent Tourism Village: The community has initiated tourism innovations. The tourist destinations are internationally recognized, with standardized facilities and collaborative pentahelix management.

According to Jadesta data in 2024, Dolli Tourism Village has been classified as an advanced tourism village and ranked among the top 300 in the Indonesian Tourism Village Awards (ADWI), receiving various awards from the Maros Regency Government. Dolli Tourism Village continues to improve each year, experiencing growth in various aspects. Therefore, the author is interested in exploring further the community participation in the development of Dolli Tourism Village in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Research Design

A qualitative descriptive research design was employed in this study. Data was collected through on-site observations of the tourism potential in Dolli Tourism Village and interviews with various community members.

2. Research Location

The research was conducted in Dolli Tourism Village, Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency.

3. Data Sources

Data sources for this study included journals, websites, and other relevant references on community roles in tourism villages. Data was categorized into primary and secondary sources. According to Azwar (2004), primary data is oral data obtained directly from research subjects. Primary data in this study was collected through interviews with informants in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency. Secondary data, on the other hand, refers to documented data or reports. Data analysis was conducted using triangulation, involving data collection, reduction, and conclusion drawing.

4. Research Subjects

Purposive sampling was used to select informants who possessed in-depth knowledge about the village and could provide valuable data. Maximum variation sampling was employed to ensure a diverse range of perspectives based on their involvement in tourism activities. Eight informants were selected from Tukamasea Village: 1 Marketing Manager of Dolli Tourism Village, 2 members of the Village Tourism Empowerment Group (POKDARWIS), including the chairperson and deputy, 1 treasurer of Dolli Tourism Village, 1 UMKM entrepreneur who also serves as a Village Representative Council (BPD) member, 1 ticket collector, and the village head and secretary as corroborating informants.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Regional Conditions of Tukamasea Village

Tukamasea is a village located in Bantimurung District, Maros Regency, South Sulawesi Province. Established in 1959 based on Law No. 29 of 1959, Tukamasea is a definitive village categorized as self-reliant. The village consists of five hamlets: Pajjaiang, Bontokappong, Bungaeja, Manarang, and Amessangeng. Tukamasea is bordered by Pangkep Regency in the north, Mangeloreng Village in the south, Baruga Village in the west, and Leang-Leang Village in the east.

According to BKKBN data in 2023, Tukamasea has 1,253 households and a population of 9,437. With a total area of 20.14 km², the village is predominantly agricultural land, with smaller portions being highland and lowland. Tukamasea is characterized by numerous towering cliffs, enhancing its natural beauty. Additionally, several small rivers and irrigation systems support agricultural activities. Consequently, the majority of Tukamasea residents are farmers, with others engaged in occupations such as trading, teaching, government service, and entrepreneurship.

3.2 History of Dolli Tourism Village

Before transforming into a popular tourist destination, Dolli was once a swampy area used for extracting soil for irrigation purposes. This practice continued from 1997 to 2019, leaving behind a marshy area. With the availability of village funds, the village government planned to construct a tourist pool, leading to the development of the Dolli swimming pool in

2019. Measuring 21 x 25 meters, the pool is surrounded by karst mountains and green rice fields. Constructed by the Tukamasea Village Government and managed by the Village-Owned Enterprise (BUMDes), involving the local community through the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis), this karst pool was officially opened in 2020 and named Dolli Bunga Eja. "Dolli" means "high" in the local language, while "bunga eja" refers to a type of red flower found in the vicinity. Apart from the swimming pool, there are two other tourist attractions: the Dolli Suspension Bridge and a fishing pond.

3.3 Dolli Tourism Village

Dolli Tourism Village is located in Bungaeja Hamlet, Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency, South Sulawesi. The village is easily accessible, with a travel time of approximately 30 minutes from Maros City center and 50 minutes from Sultan Hasanuddin Airport. The route to Dolli Tourism Village is suitable for both two-wheeled and four-wheeled vehicles. While not entirely smooth, the paved road leading to the village is in relatively good condition. Additionally, directional signage guides visitors towards the destination.

Initially named Dolli Bunga Eja upon its inauguration, the name "Dolli" originates from the Bugis language word "madolli," meaning "high." The local community refers to "bulu' dolli" as a high mountain with a natural spring, signifying the source of water at the foot of Mount Dolli. "Bunga Eja," on the other hand, translates to a red flower commonly found around the tourist area. However, local authorities suggested replacing "Bunga Eja" with "Tukamasea," resulting in the current name of Dolli Tourism Village Tukamasea.

Dolli Tourism Village embraces the concept of agritourism, which integrates agricultural activities with tourism, fostering new opportunities for sustainable tourism development. Agritourism goes beyond providing recreational experiences; it aims to broaden knowledge and strengthen the connection between visitors and agricultural practices (Suwarsito et al., 2022). The development of agritourism in various regions across Indonesia not only benefits the local economy but also plays a crucial role in preserving the natural environment of agricultural landscapes (Afiyah, 2024). Since a significant portion of Tukamasea's population are farmers, Dolli Tourism Village is blessed with an abundant natural spring from the foot of the mountain. This spring not only irrigates the vast rice fields but also serves as a water source for the tourist attractions within the village. The various attractions offered at Dolli Tourism Village include:

1. Dolli Swimming Pool

The swimming pool was the first tourist attraction to be constructed at Dolli Tourism Village. A unique feature of the Dolli swimming pool is the presence of a single standing rock in the center, creating a blend of a man-made and natural bathing experience. Additionally, the pool's main attraction lies in the panoramic view of the karst mountains and rice paddies visible from behind the pool. Notably, the pool's water source originates from the foot of the mountain located within the rice fields, preserving the natural element of the pool.



 $\label{eq:Figure 1.Dolli Swimming Pool} Figure 1. Dolli Swimming Pool \\ Documentation: Rahmaniar, Monday, <math>3^{rd}$ June 2024.

2. Dolli's Galung Agrotourism

Dolli's Galung Agrotourism, meaning "rice fields" in Bugis, was first opened to the public in 2021. This attraction offers a quintessential rural landscape with expansive rice paddies framed by a backdrop of majestic karst mountains. Visitors to Dolli's Galung Agrotourism can partake in various exciting activities, such as trekking through the scenic rice fields, exploring hidden natural caves, and capturing memorable moments on the small wooden bridge traversing the paddies. Beyond its recreational value, Dolli's Galung Agrotourism has evolved into an educational platform for agriculture. Rice paddy-based tourism villages are increasingly popular among student visitors from major cities. This trend is understandable given the scarcity of rice fields in urban areas. Consequently, tourism villages that showcase the process of rice paddy cultivation serve as a captivating attraction and an educational tool for young generations to learn about rice farming. As of 2024, several schools have already visited the site for agricultural education purposes.



Figure 2. Dolli's Galung Agrotourism Documentation: Rahmaniar, Monday, 3rd June 2024.

3. Fishing Pond Tourism

This tourist attraction was inaugurated concurrently with the Galung Agrotourism. The fishing pond offers three distinct fishing spots: the first is located to the right of the Dolli swimming pool, the second is situated at the foot of the karst mountain, and the third is near the rice paddies. Fishing equipment is not provided on-site; therefore, visitors must bring their own gear. The primary fish species found in the pond is tilapia. The current rate for

caught fish is approximately 30,000 rupiah per kilogram.



 $\label{eq:Figure 3.} Figure 3. \ Fishing Pond Tourism \\ Documentation: Rahmaniar, Monday, 3^{rd} June 2024.$

3.4 Community Participation in the Development of Dolli Tourism Village, Tukamasea

Local community participation is crucial for the development of tourism villages as they are the custodians of the tourism resources offered to visitors (Afrellia, 2024). Local communities play a significant role in the development of tourism villages. They operate and oversee the development process, from determining the products offered to the benefits they receive. These benefits include improved community economic well-being through the preservation of cultural and natural values. Additionally, tourism villages can create employment opportunities, foster entrepreneurship, and promote positive agricultural activities. A tourism village integrates attractions, accommodations, and supporting facilities within the existing social structure of the community, adhering to local customs and traditions (Prapita, 2018). Active community participation is key to the success of a tourism village. Synergy between the government and the community is essential for building a better village, following development principles that ensure a balanced combination of government initiatives and community involvement.

In development projects, tourism is viewed as a primary driver of rural economic and social development, particularly for those without formal education or professional training. Therefore, community control over the process is emphasized (Nagy & Segui, 2020). This control applies to decision-making, implementation, evaluation, and benefit-sharing, as stated by Riwu Kaho (2007:127). These principles are applied in the development of Dolli Tourism Village in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency.

1. Participation in Decision-Making

Community involvement in the decision-making process is crucial. Residents are required to determine the direction and strategies for development that align with local customs and attitudes (Prayitno, 2009:27). The parameters used to determine the degree of community participation include their involvement in decision-making, program planning, or activities to be implemented. This participation is a step towards reaching agreements on matters related to the common good (Rahadi et al., 2021).

Based on the in-depth interviews conducted by the author in the field, the findings indicate that the Tukamasea villagers actively participated in the decision-making process. This participation took place through meetings or discussions. This can be seen in their involvement in voicing their opinions regarding the initial idea for establishing Dolli Tourism Village, which originated from a concept proposed by the Village Government, the Village-Owned Enterprise (BUMDes), and the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis) as the driving force. In the program and activity planning process, the community participated in discussions about program proposals that could have a positive impact on the village. Additionally, the community was involved in determining policies regarding the profit-sharing system of the tourism village, established through mutual agreement. They also participated in creating rules based on traditional regulations as a form of respect for their ancestors, while also considering and acknowledging the role of the government as policymakers.

One concrete example of community involvement in decision-making is the meeting held to discuss the expansion of the fishing area, which initially consisted of only one location near the swimming pool. Based on this mutual agreement, land was leased from community members to establish additional fishing ponds.



Figure 4. The joint meeting between the Village Government, BUMDes, Pokdarwis, and community members discussed the addition of a fishing pond. Documentation: Chairperson of POKDARWIS, Sunday, 20th August 2023.

From the description above, it can be concluded that community participation in decision-making is highly effective. This is evident in the community's active involvement in meetings discussing the development of Dolli Tourism Village, Tukamasea. During these meetings, community members are able to ask questions, offer counterarguments, or even reject statements that do not align with their wishes. Similarly, the management team is receptive to the opinions expressed in meetings, as long as they are deemed convincing.

2. Participation in Implementation

Participation in the implementation of activities is a follow-up to the decisions that have been mutually agreed upon. Community involvement in this stage can be seen in the participation of the people of Tukamasea Village in the implementation of various tourism development programs. Due to the strong sense of unity among the community members of Dolli Tourism Village, the tourism village has gradually gained support from various elements of the local government. In terms of activity implementation, the local people of Tukamasea Village consistently maintain their village well. For example, the well-maintained pedestrian area of Galung Dolli Tourism is a result of the efforts of the management, the village, and the community. Additionally, in the rice fields, local farmers have tidied up their fields to create a more aesthetically pleasing appearance. Likewise, regarding the cleanliness of the tourist area, the people of Tukamasea Village carry out communal cleaning activities once a week. Community participation in the development of Dolli Tourism Village extends beyond the management and village officials to include local residents. Community participation in the form of labor is manifested in communal work activities.



Figure 5. The residents of Tukamasea engaged in a community service activity to clean up the environment in the tourist area Documentation: Chairperson of POKDARWIS, Friday, 16th February 2024.

3. Participation in Evaluation

Community participation in evaluation involves providing feedback on the implementation of activities and serving as a basis for continuous improvement and development (Amaliah, 2024). The goal of evaluation is to gather information about the challenges and obstacles faced in developing the tourism village. This activity is conducted to determine whether activities have been carried out effectively. One example of evaluation participation relates to the daily cleaning of garbage. Both the tourism village management and the community often find it overwhelming to clean up the garbage every evening, particularly the leaf litter that accumulates around the swimming pool. A solution to this problem is for the village government to provide a garbage truck and for the community and management to take turns cleaning up the garbage daily. In addition, regular evaluations are conducted monthly to compare performance and identify areas for improvement in the tourism development process. Furthermore, the Maros Regency Tourism Department has facilitated study visits to other tourism villages outside of Sulawesi for village officials and tourism village managers. Through these study visits, managers can identify what is needed to make the tourist facilities in Dolli Tukamasea Tourism Village more attractive. The tourism village management and the community have come together to create new initiatives and are committed to being accountable for their outcomes.

4. Participation in Benefit Sharing

Participation in benefit sharing is a key indicator of the success of any participatory initiative. Successful participation in utilizing the outcomes is evident when the community can experience the benefits of a program. Success can be measured by increased output and, in quantitative terms, by the percentage of planned activities that have been successfully completed. Community involvement in utilizing the outcomes of Dolli Tourism Village development is manifested in various activities. For example, many community members, particularly housewives, have opened small businesses selling local UMKM products, regional cuisine, and offering homestay accommodations and gazebo rentals for tourists. This reflects the community's positive reception to the existence of the tourism village.

Additionally, the tourism village management has reported an increase in the number of visitors since the development initiatives were implemented by both the management and the community. This indicates that the increased number of visitors to Dolli Tourism Village has positively impacted the local economy, particularly for community members working in the tourism sector.



Figure 6. T The atmosphere at Galung Dolli Tourist Site on the weekend. Documentation: Chairperson of POKDARWIS, Sunday, 5th November 2023.

4. CONCLUSION

Community participation in the development of Dolli Tourism Village in Tukamasea Village, Bantimurung District, Maros Regency has been successful. Community involvement is key to the success of tourism development. Community participation in the development of Dolli Tourism Village can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Participation in Decision-Making: This includes the establishment of Dolli Tourism Village, the determination of profit-sharing systems, and the creation of program regulations within the Dolli tourism area.
- 2. Participation in Implementation: The research findings indicate that the majority of Tukamasea Village residents are enthusiastic about contributing to the development of the Dolli tourist site. Participation at this stage can be seen in the community's willingness to voluntarily engage in communal work for the development of Dolli Tourism Village.
- 3. Participation in Evaluation: Evaluation activities in the development of the Dolli tourist site have been carried out effectively. The evaluation is conducted through monthly meetings or discussions. Another form of evaluation involves village officials and management conducting comparative studies to obtain new ideas and innovations from other tourist destinations. These innovations can then be used to improve Dolli Tourism Village itself.
- 4. Participation in Benefit Sharing: Participation at this stage can be considered successful as it has provided benefits to the community. This is evident in the increased economic prosperity of the community. Participation in benefit sharing is marked by an increase in

output and can be measured quantitatively by the percentage of successful completion of planned activities. This is demonstrated by the increasing number of tourists visiting Dolli Tourism Village since its opening, which has undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the local economy.

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