



Community Participation in Environmental Protection and Management in Ecotourism Development in Sikasur Tourism Village, Belik District, Pemalang Regency

Widya Anugrah Saputri

Faculty of Law, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto

Email: Widyaanugrah179@gmail.com

Abstract

As an agricultural country, Indonesia has a wealth of biological natural resources, which, in addition to acting as a source of food and foreign exchange, also has an attraction in the nature tourism sector (ecotourism). One of the natural attractions in Pemalang Regency is the Sikasur Tourism Village. To realize sustainable ecotourism development, it is necessary to identify the extent of community participation in environmental protection and management in Sikasur Village. The research method used in this study is a normative juridical method carried out through a literature study that examines mainly secondary data. This research is descriptive by describing the applicable laws and regulations associated with legal theory related to the problem. Based on the research results, it is known that the participation of the Sikasur Tourism Village community in environmental protection for ecotourism development is formed by the existence of a tourism awareness group (*Kelompok Sadar Wisata*, Pokdarwis) which is managed directly by the Village Owned Enterprise (*Badan Usaha Milik Desa*, BUMDes). Many efforts have been made in environmental law enforcement, but in practice, there are still obstacles and obstacles encountered in environmental protection efforts in the development of ecotourism in Sikasur Tourism Village, Pemalang Regency.

Keywords: *Environmental Protection, Ecotourism, Tourism Village*

Abstrak

Indonesia sebagai negara agraris memiliki kekayaan sumber daya alam hayati yang disamping berperan sebagai sumber pangan dan devisa negara, juga mempunyai daya tarik dalam sektor pariwisata alam (ecotourism). Salah satu objek wisata alam yang ada di Kabupaten Pemalang terdapat di Desa Wisata Sikasur. Sebagai upaya untuk mewujudkan pengembangan ekowisata yang berkelanjutan perlu dilakukan suatu identifikasi sejauh mana peran serta masyarakat terhadap perlindungan dan pengelolaan lingkungan di Desa Sikasur. Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode yuridis normatif yang dilakukan melalui studi pustaka yang menelaah terutama data sekunder. Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif dengan menggambarkan peraturan perundang-undangan yang berlaku dikaitkan dengan teori hukum yang berkaitan dengan permasalahan. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian diketahui peran serta masyarakat Desa Wisata Sikasur dalam perlindungan lingkungan terhadap pengembangan ekowisata dibentuk dengan adanya kelompok sadar wisata (Pokdarwis) yang dikelola langsung oleh Badan Usaha Milik Desa (BUMDes). Banyak upaya telah dilakukan dalam rangka penegakan hukum lingkungan, namun dalam pelaksanaannya masih terdapat kendala dan hambatan yang ditemui pada upaya perlindungan lingkungan dalam pengembangan ekowisata di Desa Wisata Sikasur Kabupaten Pemalang.

Kata Kunci : *Perlindungan Lingkungan, Ekowisata, Desa Wisata*

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I. Introduction

The environment is all objects and their forces and conditions, including humans and their actions, which are contained in the space where humans are located. It also affects the survival and welfare of humans and other living bodies.¹ Together with plants, animals, and microorganisms, humans occupy a specific space. In addition to living things, there are also non-living things, such as air which consists of various gases, water in the form of steam, liquid and solid, soil, and rock. The space occupied by living things and living and non-living

¹ Munadjat Danusaputro, *Hukum Lingkungan*, Buku I Umum (Jakarta: Binacipta, 1985)

things is called the living environment.² In the context of utilizing natural resources to promote general welfare as contained in the 1945 Constitution, it is necessary to endeavor to preserve the harmonious and balanced function of the environment to support development oriented towards the welfare of the people. In environmental management, based on Law Number 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management, environmental law enforcement can be carried out in two ways, namely preventive and repressive. Preventive environmental law enforcement is carried out through supervision, while repressive law enforcement is carried out through sanctions.³ In this case, the urgency of preserving environmental functions in development and efforts to improve community welfare, especially tourism development, also needs serious attention.⁴

As an agricultural country, Indonesia has natural resources, mainly tropical biological resources, which are very diverse and unique. Its diversity and uniqueness, in addition to acting as a source of food and foreign exchange, also has an attraction in the nature tourism sector (ecotourism). Based on the National Ecotourism Development Strategy Plan.⁵ Ecotourism is a concept of developing and implementing tourism activities based on the use of the environment for the protection and with the active core participation of the community by presenting products containing education and learning, having a positive impact on the environment, making a positive contribution to regional development and being applied to protected areas, open areas, fostered areas, and cultural area. This research was conducted to provide knowledge about ecotourism from the perspective of environmental law to the community.⁶

Such natural potential will attract tourists to visit.⁷ Pemalang Regency is one of the Central Java Province areas with various potential to develop and preserve natural resources. The geographical condition of the Pemalang Regency, with its unique landscape, can be optimized for tourism activities. These various potentials need to be identified to be more precise in development planning.⁸ Based on data from the Pemalang Regency Tourism Office, 80% of the natural attractions in the Pemalang Regency are located in the southern part.⁹ One of them is located in the tourist village of Sikasur, Belik District, Pemalang Regency, which includes tourist objects in Bengkawah Waterfall and Silating Lake.

The existence of tourism activities in Sikasur Village has a positive and negative impact on residents. The positive impact that can be felt directly is that it can improve the economy of the Sikasur Village community because, with this activity, the community can open small businesses around the tourist area so that residents do not only rely on agricultural or livestock products. However, these tourism activities do not always have a positive impact as for the negative impacts, namely the amount of garbage around the tourism area caused by the lack of provision of trash bins and poor waste management.

Environmental management must be carried out correctly and in a comprehensive, integrated manner as stated in Article 1 point (2) UUPPLH: Environmental management is an integrated effort to preserve environmental functions, which include policies for structuring, utilizing, developing, maintaining, recovering, monitoring and controlling the environment.

² Otto Soemarwoto, *Ekologi, Lingkungan Hidup dan Pembangunan* (Jakarta: Djambatan, 1991).

³ Pasapan Priya Tandirerung, "Human Rights and environmental protection," *Paulus Law Journal*, Vol. 1 No. 2, 2020.

⁴ A Reni Widyastuti, "Pengembangan Pariwisata yang Berorientasi pada Pelestarian Fungsi Lingkungan," *Jurnal EKOSAINS*, Vol. 2 No. 3, 2021.

⁵ Sekartjajrarini S, dan Legoh N, *Rencana Strategi Nasional Ekowisata* (Jakarta: Kantor Menteri Negara Kebudayaan dan Pariwisata Indonesia, 2004).

⁶ Yulinda Adharani, dkk, "Penerapan Konsep Ekowisata di Kecamatan Cihurip Kabupaten Garut dalam Rangka Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan," *Jurnal UNPAD*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2020) :181.

⁷ Agus Winasis, & Dody Setyawan, "Efektivitas program pengembangan desa wisata melalui kelembagaan dalam peningkatan sumber daya alam," *jurnal JISIP*, Vol. 5 No. 2 (2016).

⁸ Budiani, S. R, *Analisis Potensi dan Strategi Pengembangan Pariwisata Berkelanjutan Berbasis Komunitas di Desa Sembungan, Wonosobo, Jawa Tengah*. *Majalah Geografi Indonesia*, Fakultas Geografi UGM dan Ikatan Geografi Indonesia (IGI), 32(2). <https://doi.org/10.22146/mgi>

⁹ Pahrul Fauzi, & Ginanjar Adi Nugraha, "Pengembangan Wisata Kabupaten Pemalang Bagian Selatan: Pendekatan Analisis Potensi dan Daya Tarik," *Journal & Proceeding feb unsaed*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (2019) : 397.

That is to provide knowledge about good environmental management, especially for village officials and tourism activists in rural areas in Belik District, Pemalang Regency, Central Java, as a form of active environmental protection and management based on UUPLH. To realize sustainable ecotourism development, it is necessary to identify how tourism activities cause community participation in environmental protection and management in Sikasur Village directly or indirectly to create sustainable tourism. The above background will be further investigated in "Community Participation in Environmental Protection and Management in Ecotourism Development in Sikasur Tourism Village, Belik District, Pemalang Regency."

II. Research Problems

1. What is the role of the community in environmental protection for ecotourism development in the tourist village of Sikasur, Belik District, Pemalang Regency, based on Law Number 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management?
2. What are the obstacles to environmental protection efforts in developing ecotourism in the tourist village of Sikasur, Belik District, Pemalang Regency?

III. Research Methods

The method in this research is using the normative juridical method. The normative juridical method is carried out through a literature study examining mainly secondary data in laws and regulations, court decisions, agreements, contracts, other legal documents, research results, study results, and other references.¹⁰ Data collection is carried out by library research to obtain secondary data, including primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials, by going through a series of reading, taking notes, citing books, and using data or information and statements through request requests. Data on related agencies based on research objectives. This study uses the primary source of secondary data or library materials.

Furthermore, identification and clarification of legal facts with sources to complete secondary data are carried out. The data analysis used is qualitative, that is, data that cannot be measured or assessed with numbers directly. The presentation data in this study are presented in descriptions and methods that are arranged systematically, logically, and rationally. The research was conducted at the Purwokerto Muhammadiyah University Library, Purwokerto Muhammadiyah University Faculty of Law Library, Pemalang Regency Regional Library, in the Sikasur Village area, Belik District, Pemalang Regency. So after the complete data is obtained, it is analyzed with regulations relating to the problem under study.¹¹

¹⁰ Badriyah Khaleed, *Legislative Drafting Teori dan Praktik Penyusunan Peraturan Perundang-undangan* (Yogyakarta: Medpress Digital, 2014), 41.

¹¹ Mathew, Miles dan Huberman Michel, *Analisis Data Kualitatif : Buku Sumber tentang Metode-metode Baru*,(Jakarta: UI Pres, 2014), 102.

IV. Research Results And Discussion

1. Community Participation in Environmental Protection for Ecotourism Development in Sikasur Tourism Village, Pemalang Regency Based on Law Number 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management

The form of embodiment of the right to a good and correct environment is contained in Law no. 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management. Within the framework of the role of society and the state, to protect the right to a good and healthy environment, the government has implemented various environmental and economic instruments.¹²

The role of the community is an integral part of the management and protection of the environment to create a suitable living environment for everyone. Based on this, community participation is an absolute must in creating a healthy living environment. The meaning of health is not only physical but also a good environment.¹³

In-Law Number 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management is regulated regarding community participation contained in Article 70 Paragraph (1) which states that "The community has the same and widest possible rights and opportunities to play an active role in environmental protection and management. life". This article states that the community has the same and most comprehensive possible rights and opportunities in playing an active role in environmental protection and management.

Furthermore, Article 70 paragraph (2) of the UUPLH expressly states that community participation in environmental protection and management can be in the form of:

- a. social surveillance;
- b. giving suggestions, opinions, proposals, objections, complaints;
- c. submission of information and/or reports.¹⁴

The role of the community concerning the objectives of community participation as regulated in Article 70 paragraph (3) of the UUPLH is:

- a. increase awareness of environmental protection and management;
- b. increasing independence, community empowerment, and partnerships;
- c. develop community capacity and pioneering;
- d. develop community responsiveness to carry out social supervision;
- e. develop and maintain local culture and wisdom in preserving environmental functions.

Public concern is the basis for taking steps and environmental protection measures to preserve and sustain environmental functions. The independence and empowerment of the community is a requirement to grow the community's ability as actors in the UUPLH together with the government and other development actors.¹⁵

One of the environmental protection efforts that have been carried out in Sikasur Tourism Village is to carry out terraces on rice fields. In addition to supporting environmental conservation, it is also an attraction for visiting tourists. The functions of preservation and capabilities of the environment are the goal of protecting and preserving the environment.¹⁶

The initial pilot for Sikasur Village was initiated to become a tourist village, namely in early 2015. Sikasur Tourism Village's management is currently managed by a Village-Owned Enterprise (*Badan Usaha Milik Desa*, Bumdes). In Bumdes, there are several units. One of them

¹² Subardi, Lalu, "Peran Serta Masyarakat dalam Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup Menurut Undang-undang Nomor 32 Tahun 2009 Tentang Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup," *Jurnal Yustisia*, Vol. 3, No.1 (2014).

¹³ *Ibid*,

¹⁴ Wibawa, Kadek Cahya Susila, "Mengembangkan Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup untuk Pembangunan Berkelanjutan", *Administrative Law & Governance Journal*, Vol 2, No 1 (2019)

¹⁵ Hardjosoemantri Koesnadi, *Aspek Hukum Peran Serta Masyarakat dalam Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup*, (Yogyakarta, Gajah Mada University, 2009).

¹⁶ Identifikasi dan Klarifikasi Fakta Hukum dengan Bapak Warsito selaku ketua kelompok sadar wisata pada hari selasa, tanggal 16 januari 2021, pukul 09.00 WIB.

is a tourism unit, which is realized by the existence of a Tourism Awareness Group (*Kelompok Sadar Wisata, Pokdarwis*).

The existence of Pokdarwis has an important role, namely as a driving force for ecotourism. In addition to ecotourism development, Pokdarwis is also essential for providing socialization to the community regarding environmental conservation because ecotourism offers its natural beauty and authenticity. The role of Pokdarwis in Sikasur Village as a driving force for tourism in environmental protection has not been going well. Management that has not been maximized has caused existing facilities and potential to be neglected and damaged.

The community's role and concern become essential in environmental protection and management. Environmental conservation is related to community participation which will help identify environmental impact problems early, accurately, and altogether, accommodating aspirations and knowledge and local wisdom from the community, which is often the key to solving environmental impact problems that arise.¹⁷

2. Barriers to Environmental Protection Efforts in Ecotourism Development in Sikasur Tourism Village, Pematang Rejang Regency

Various efforts have been made in the context of enforcing environmental laws, including regulations issued by the government authorized to preserve the environment. Many regulations have been issued, but there are still obstacles and obstacles encountered in their implementation.¹⁸ In addition, local governments in enforcing environmental laws also encounter many obstacles.

Sikasur Tourism Village, in its development, experienced changes in various aspects. That can be seen from the comparison before and after being designated as a Tourism Village. There are several obstacles to its implementation. There are obstacles to be faced in developing regional ecotourism, especially in the Sikasur Tourism Village, Pematang Rejang Regency. As for some of the obstacles faced, including external and internal barriers.

a) Internal barriers

The development of Sikasur Village to become a Tourism Village is faced with the condition of the community, which is still simple, namely the emergence of different perspectives in some people about the Tourism Village. It is because of the lack of knowledge about Tourism Villages, and some people think that having a Tourism Village will not change the condition of the village. The residents of Sikasur Tourism Village don't care about environmental cleanliness for waste. Not only a dirty environment will have an impact on environmental health, and it can damage the environment. The lack of places for waste disposal at tourist sites and the absence of care facilities for transporting waste are obstacles to environmental protection. The behavior of the community who does not participate actively in preserving the village environment shows that the community has an attitude that is less concerned about the progress of their village because, in the development of ecotourism, one of the things needed is the conservation of nature and community cooperation in preparing ecotourism in Sikasur Village, Belik District, Pematang Rejang Regency. The lack of local government contribution in providing facilities for ecotourism development is also one of the obstacles to environmental protection efforts.

b) External barriers

The lack of understanding of visitors in Sikasur Tourism Village regarding environmental conservation is one of the causes of scattered garbage. It can be seen from the condition of the tourist attraction. There is still much garbage thrown carelessly in the tourist environment.

¹⁷ Hardjasoemantri Koesnadi., *Op.Cit.*,

¹⁸ Herlina, Nina, "Permasalahan Lingkungan Hidup dan Penegakan Hukum Lingkungan di Indonesia," *Jurnal Ilmiah Galuh Justiti*, Vol. 3, No. 2 (2015).

V. Conclusions

Community participation in environmental protection for ecotourism development in Sikasur Tourism Village is formed by the existence of the Tourism Awareness Group (*Kelompok Sadar Wisata, Pokdarwis*). The Sikasur Tourism Village management is currently managed by the Village Owned Enterprise (*Badan Usaha Milik Desa, Bumdes*). The role of Pokdarwis in Sikasur Village, apart from being a driving force for tourism, also provides socialization related to conservation in environmental protection, but this has not been going well. Management that has not been maximized causes existing facilities and potential to be unkempt and damaged. One of the environmental protection efforts that have been carried out in Sikasur Tourism Village is to carry out terraces on rice fields. In addition to supporting environmental conservation, it is also an attraction for visiting tourists.

There are obstacles to be faced in developing regional ecotourism, especially in the Sikasur Tourism Village, Pematang ReGENCY. As for some of the obstacles faced, including external and internal barriers. Internal obstacles include the development of Sikasur Village to become a Tourism Village faced with the community's condition, which is still simple, namely the emergence of different perspectives in some people about the Tourism Village. The lack of concern for the residents of the Sikasur Tourism Village for environmental cleanliness and the behavior of the people who do not participate actively in preserving the village environment shows that the community has an attitude that is less concerned about the progress of their village. As for the external obstacles, namely, the lack of understanding of visitors in Sikasur Tourism Village towards environmental conservation is one of the causes of scattered garbage.

VI. Suggestions

Pokdarwis need to improve the management of ecotourism development so that the role of Pokdarwis as a driver of ecotourism is more optimal. Awareness of the community by providing socialization about the importance of protecting the environment. Management of Tourism Villages held by Pokdarwis needs to receive support and adequate facilities and infrastructure from the local government.

Sikasur Tourism Village needs further efforts with the government and environmental agencies to conduct socialization and training on ecotourism education. The need to add facilities for signs regarding environmental cleanliness at tourist sites to increase visitor awareness to protect the environment and add trash facilities for organic and non-organic waste with a distance of 3 meters between one trash can at each tourist site and provide a car garbage collector so that the waste can then be processed at the waste bank.

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