

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT – WORLD BANK
MEDIA MONITORING REPORT VILLAGE LAW

Period: Mar 9-15, 2017

HEADLINES

- The Director General for Rural Development and Empowerment at the Ministry of Villages, Ahmad Erani Yustika, stated **there has been a slight increase in the DD utilization for infrastructure and empowerment. In 2016, 97.5% of DD was spent on infrastructure and empowerment program, higher than 94% in 2015.** The Directorate General for Fiscal Balance at the Ministry of Finance, Boediarto, stated that the effectiveness of DD utilization remained poor. He gave an example in South Sulawesi where despite an increased DD allocation, almost 60% of 2,254 villages remained as underdeveloped villages.
- **The Ministry of Villages aimed to establish 5,000 developed villages by 2019.** In order to achieve the target, a good coordination among the 19 concerned ministries/agencies is required. To improve the rural electrification ratio the Ministry of Villages would work together with the Ministry of Energy. **Currently, nearly 3,000 villages do not have access to electricity, while access in another 9,000 villages is poor.**
- The Director General of Fiscal Balance at the Ministry of Finance, Boediarso Teguh, stated **the central government would transfer the DD Phase 1 – 60% of the total IDR 60 trillion allocation - as scheduled in April 2017 to all 74,954 villages.** Last year, the DD allocation reached IDR 46.9 trillion with the absorption rate of 99.4%.
- The Directorate General of Regional Development at the Ministry of Villages, Suprayoga Hadi, stated **the government would recruit approximately 38,000 village facilitators. It is estimated that one facilitator would have to cover at least two villages.**
- E-voting in the Babakan village head election (in the Bogor district of West Java) went well with a 70% participation rate. **E-voting in village head elections has been implemented in 527 villages in nine provinces.**
- The Minister of Social Affairs stated **the ministry would perform an evaluation on the implementation of two social assistance programs; the Hopeful**

Family Program (PKH) and non-cash food assistance (BPNT), in the East Java province. The Ministry has allocated a total of IDR 6.04 trillion for these programs.

- The Directorate General of PAUD at the Ministry of Education and Culture Harris Iskandar stated **that by 2016 the gross participation ratio in PAUD stood at 72%.** Around six of 19 million children aged 3-6 years old were not enrolled in PAUD.

1. VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

The Directorate General for Fiscal Balance at the Ministry of Finance, Boediarso, stated that the effectiveness of DD utilization remained poor. He gave an example in South Sulawesi where, despite an increased DD allocation, nearly 60% of the 2,254 villages remained underdeveloped. Separately, the Director General of Rural Development and Empowerment at the Ministry of Villages, Ahmad Erani Yustika stated that there has been a slight increase in the DD utilization for infrastructure and empowerment. He cited data that in 2016 an average 97.5% of DD in the village was spent to cover infrastructure and empowerment programs. The rest was used for operational costs. The figure was higher than that of 2015, where the allocation for infrastructure and empowerment stood at 94%.

The Minister of Villages stated that the government aimed to create 5,000 developed villages (*sejahtera mandiri*) by 2019. In order to achieve the target, a good coordination among the 19 concerned ministries/agencies is required. For example, regarding the improvement of the electrification ratio, the Ministry for Villages would work together with the Ministry of Energy. Currently, nearly 3,000 villages do not have access to electricity, while access in another 9,000 villages is poor. The Ministry also announced a co-operation with the Australian government to implement a leadership training program for village officials.

Sources:

- [*Dana Desa Masih Tersendat*](#) – Media Indonesia, March 13, 2017
- [*Peraturan Daerah Ganjalan Dana Desa*](#) – Media Indonesia, March 10, 2017
- [*Setengah Penduduk di Desa Miskin*](#) – Indopos.co.id, March 13, 2017
- [*Kementerian Desa Rancang Kerjasama Pelatihan Leadership*](#) – Suara Merdeka, March 11, 2017

- [Mendes: Ribuan Desa Masih Hidup Dalam Gelap](#) – Suara Pembaruan, March 9, 2017
- [Pemerintah Lamban Bangun Infrastruktur Listrik di Pedesaan](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, March 9, 2017

2. CORRUPTION AND MISUSE

The media reported two corruption cases involving the village heads in West Java and Central Java. From the Sukabumi district (West Java), the media reported that a village head was arrested over a DD corruption case, which has caused a financial loss of IDR 186 million. Meanwhile in the Klaten district (Central Java), the police stated that 40 village heads and officials have been questioned in a corruption case involving the former district head Sri Hartini. The police stated that money amounting to IDR 3 billion, which had been confiscated in December last year, was used as bribe money from the village head to the suspect. The village head reportedly paid a certain amount of money to the suspect in favor of an allocation of “aspiration fund” (dana aspirasi – a financial assistance to the village) from the 2016 district budget.

Separately in Aceh, non-governmental organization (NGO) LESPAS (Public Aspiration Watch) of the Subulussalam Regency urged the local government to conduct an evaluation of DD utilization in 2015 and 2016. The NGO claimed that in many villages the budget was prepared without an appropriate public consultation. Also, the NGO found that commonly detailed information on the village budget was not publicly accessible. Meanwhile in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), residents of the Waling village reported the village head to the district police. The village head was accused of misusing the village budget and manipulation of subsidized rice for the poor (raskin) from 2011-2016.

Sources:

- [LSM: Evaluasi Dana Desa](#) – Serambi Indonesia, March 13, 2017
- [Warga Waling Laporkan Feliks Gat ke Polisi](#) – Kupang Pos, March 10, 2017.
- [Gelapkan Dana Desa, Kades di Sukabumi Ditahan](#) – Metrotvnews.com, March 9, 2017
- [Sri Hartini Akui Uang Rp 3 Miliar Setoran Desa](#) – Suara Merdeka, March 9, 2017

3. THE DISBURSEMENT AND REPORTING OF DD

The Director General of Fiscal Balance at the Ministry of Finance, Boediarso Teguh, stated

facilitator would have to cover at least two villages. He cited an example in the East Sumba district, where there were only six facilitators to cover all 140 villages, many of which were remotely located.

The media reported that the North Kalimantan and East Kalimantan province would begin recruiting facilitators. The East Kalimantan province would extend contract of 150 facilitators, while the North Kalimantan province would recruit more facilitators to work in 447 villages. North Kalimantan would receive IDR 369.9 billion of DD this year. Separately in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), the media reported that facilitators demanded a clearer role in the preparation of village planning documents. Currently it is common that facilitators are not being involved in the preparation of village planning documents and budget.

Sources:

- [*2017, Satu Pendamping Kawal ADD Dua Desa*](#) – Media Indonesia, March 15, 2017
- [*Peran Pendamping Desa Diakui Minim*](#) – Media Indonesia, March 14, 2017
- [*Dana Desa Bukan Lagi Program Coba-coba*](#) – Media Indonesia, March 11, 2017
- [*DPMPD Kaltim Ingatkan Pendamping Desa Tidak Berpolitik*](#) – Kaltim.antaranews.com, March 9, 2017

5. VILLAGE HEAD ELECTIONS

The media reported that e-voting in the Babakan village head election (in the Bogor district of West Java) went well. There were over 10,000 registered voters and the participation rate stood at 70%. Overall in the country, the e-voting system has been implemented in 527 villages in nine provinces.

Following a Constitutional Court's (MK) decision, village head elections in the Bandung district in October 2017 would allow candidates from outside the village to participate. Meanwhile in the Tangerang District, the government allocated IDR 5 billion for the next round of village head elections in May 2017. Around 80% would be used to organize the elections, while the rest was allocated for security measures.

Sources:

- [*Pilkades di Tangerang Butuh Rp 5 Miliar*](#) – Koran Tempo, March 14, 2017
- [*Calon Kepala Desa Bisa Dari Luar Daerah*](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, March 13, 2017

- [Pertama Kali, Pemilihan Kepala Desa di Bogor Gunakan E-voting](#) – Kompas.com, March 12, 2017
- [Cukup Ditempel, Jangan Dicolek](#) – Jawa Pos, March 13, 2017
- [Sembilan Keunggulan E-voting Dibanding Pemilu Konvensional](#) – Viva.co.id, March 12, 2017
- [Bisa Tekan Biaya Hingga 50%](#) – Serambi Indonesia, March 13, 2017

6. VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

The media reported salary payment delays for village officials in a number of provinces. In the Southeast Aceh district (Aceh), a delay in the issuance of the district head regulation has caused a two-month delay of salary payments for officials in 386 villages. A total IDR 3.6 billion of a monthly salary payments is budgeted for village officials in the district.

A delay was also reported in 36 villages in the Gunungkidul district (Yogyakarta). These villages have not completed their annual budget (APBDes) and annual work plan (RKPDDes) and were unable to pay their officials since January 2017. The other 108 villages have issued the 2017 budget and do not have any problems with salary payments.

In the Bojonegoro district (Central Java), 670 village official positions in over 400 villages were vacant. However, recruitment for these positions was still pending until a bylaw has been issued in September this year.

Sources:

- [Ratusan Perangkat Desa Belum Terima Gaji](#) – Krjgya.com, March 10, 2017
- [DPRD Bojonegoro Sudah Terima Raperda Perangkat Desa](#) – Antaranews.com, March 13, 2017
- [Gaji Aparatur Desa Mengendap](#) – Serambi Indonesia, March 14, 2017

7. VILLAGE-OWNED ENTERPRISES (BUMDES)

In the Klaten district (Central Java), ex-PNPM assets in the Karangnom district - amounting to IDR 3 billion - were handed over as the asset of a joint BUMDes (BUMDes Bersama) in the sub-district. All 19 villages in the sub-district, which already have their own BUMDes, shared ownership of the joint BUMDes.

Source:

- [BUMDES Bersama Kembangkan Produ Unggulan](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, March 14, 2017

8. BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY: HEALTH AND EDUCATION

The Minister of Social Affairs stated that the ministry would perform an evaluation on the implementation of two social assistance programs; the Hopeful Family Program (PKH) and non-cash food assistance (BPNT), in the East Java province. The Ministry has allocated a total IDR 6.04 trillion for these programs.

In this reporting period, the media presented a number of reports on early childhood training centers (PAUD). The Directorate General of PAUD at the Ministry of Education and Culture Harris Iskandar stated that by 2016 the gross participation ratio in PAUD stood at 72%. Around six of 19 million children aged 3-6 years old were not enrolled in PAUD.

Separately, the Association of PAUD Teachers (HIMPAUDI) stated a data that indicated the poor knowledge of PAUD teachers on food and nutrition. A survey of 1,141 teachers showed that only 6% of PAUD teachers have good knowledge on nutrition issue for children. Another survey in the Riau province revealed that only 36% of PAUD has awareness on the importance of nutrition for the student.

In the Kendal district (Central Java) some 30% of 1,000 PAUD were declared ineligible to receive a financial assistance (BOP) from the 2017 special allocation fund. Around 700 PAUD would receive BOP totaling IDR 18 billion.

From Ambon (Maluku), the media reported an initiative of Ambon-based women non-government organization (NGO) in running a number of early childhood learning centers (PAUD). One PAUD is dedicated for children victims of social conflict and is located in the Batumerah village, one of the hotspots during the Ambon conflict. The other PAUD is located in the Seram Island, focuses on the preservation of the Nuaulu native language, which is on the brink of extinction.

In the Kerawang district (West Java), around 3,000 dropout students from junior and senior high schools enrolled in an equivalency education exam program (*Paket C* and *Paket B*). The program is part of “*Kerawang Cerdas*” (Smart Kerawang) to address high dropouts rate in compulsory education. This year, the program aims to target 5,000 dropout students.

Sources:

- [300 PAUD Tak Dapat Dana BOP](#) – Suara Merdeka, March 14, 2017
- [Warga Putus Sekolah Ikuti “Karawang Cerdas”](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, March 13, 2017
- [Mensos Evaluasi Pelaksanaan Program Bantuan Sosial](#) – Koran Sindo, March 13, 2017
- [Minim, Peran PAUD Turunkan Kasus Gizi Anak Indonesia](#) – Suara Pembaruan, March 11, 2017.
- [Merekatkan Sejak Dini Orang “Bersaudara” di Ambon](#) – Kompas, March 11, 2017.

9. EX-PNPM ASSETS

The Sukabumi District Attorney arrested former secretary of the UPK (Activity Implementation Unit) of the PNPM-MP in the Cikidang sub-district. The arrest was made in relation to a fund embezzlement case that occurred from 2009 to 2011. The district attorney estimated that the case had caused IDR 974 million in financial loss.

Source:

- [Dana Bansos Rp 16 Miliar Cair Tanpa Verifikasi](#) – Media Indonesia, March 14, 2017

10. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

The media reported a number of programs implemented by the Ministry for Social Affairs targeting the indigenous peoples in various provinces. In the Jambi province, the Ministry granted IDR 283 million of financial assistance to Suku Anak Dalam (SAD) indigenous groups residing in the outskirts of the Sialang village (Merangin district). The grant would be used to fund a housing renovation project and construction of a road connecting the village and the SAD settlement. A similar grant would be granted to 45 Dayak Deyah tribe households in the Tabalong district (South Kalimantan), and 23 SAD households in the Pulau Lintang village (Sarolangun district of Jambi). These indigenous groups also became the Hopeful Family Program (PKH) and non-cash food assistance (BPNT).

Separately in Jakarta, famous singer Akon signed an agreement with the Ministry of Village and Social Affairs to implement an electrification program for the SAD in the Jambi province. The charity program is part of a global movement “Akon Lighting Africa” that has been implemented in 25 countries. The program aims to provide free electricity to the communities by using solar cell technology and would be carried out by a local partner Dwiyuna Jaya Foundation.

Sources:

- [Mensos Evaluasi Pelaksanaan Program Bantuan Sosial](#) – Koran Sindo, March 13, 2017
- [Mensos Bantu Orang Rimba](#) – Media Indonesia, March 11, 2017
- [Mendes: Ribuan Desa Masih Hidup Dalam Gelap](#) – Suara Pembaruan, March 9, 2017
- [Big Hopes for Akon’s Philanthropic Project in Indonesia](#) – The Jakarta Pos, March 9, 2017
- [Akon Pasok Listrik untuk Suku Anak Dalam](#) – Koran Sindo March 9, 2017

11. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- CENTRAL KALIMANTAN: The Public Works Agency in the Central Kalimantan province encouraged the villages to allocate the 2017 DD to fund road improvement programs. In many areas in the province the road quality was reportedly very poor. Local farmers who rely on these roads for transporting their products have to pay extra costs to rent motorcycle taxis, since parts of the roads were accessible only by motorcycles (source: [Akses Jalan Buruk, Petani Tambah Ongkos](#) – Kompas, March 9, 2017).
- EAST KALIMANTAN: The East Kutai district government allocated a financial assistance to the neighborhood unit (*rukun tetangga* or RT, an administrative unit under a village) across the district. A total IDR 52 billion was allocated as part of the 2016 village fund allocation (ADD) (source: [Asik Desa Segera Digelontor Dana Melimpah](#) – Jppn.com, March 13, 2017).
- WEST PAPUA: the West Papua provincial government granted the status of village forest to two villages in the South Sorong district. The two villages were Manggroholo (1,695 hectares) and Sira (1,850 hectares). The acknowledgement followed a decree by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in September 2014 (source: [Hutan Papua Masih Rentan Dikonversi](#) – Kompas, March 10, 2017).