

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT – WORLD BANK
MEDIA MONITORING REPORT VILLAGE LAW**

Period: Apr 17-23, 2017

HEADLINES

- The media reported that **Village Funds (“Dana Desa” or DD) Phase 1 had been transferred to some districts, while many districts saw a delay mainly due to incomplete realization reports from the 2016 budget.** As for the ADD, delays in some regions occurred, reportedly caused by pending issuance of the 2017 annual budget plan (APBDes).
- **With regards to DD corruption issue, two former village heads in the Majalengka District (West Java) were arrested by the district attorney.** Separately in West Kalimantan and Aceh, the media reported protests from the community against the alleged misused of DD.
- **Vacant positions of village officials were reported in East and Central Java.** The Gresik District Government (East Java) would begin a recruitment process to fill in approximately 400 positions in June. In the Semarang District (Central Java), over 1,000 candidates had registered to fill in vacant positions.
- **The Minister of Villages expected BUMDes to help control the commodity prices in view of the coming fasting month and the Islamic Festive day of Idul Fitri.** BUMDes could control prices of staple foods by collecting rice produced by the farmers and distributing the rice directly to consumers.
- **In the Banyumas District (Central Java), 81,251 students from poor and near poor households had been registered as recipient of “Program Indonesia Pintar” (PIP, Smart Indonesia Program).** The disbursement rate was over 90%.
- **Some districts would hold simultaneous village head elections in the following months and village level election committees have been set up.** In the Grobogan District, elections would be held in the end of 2018 (222 villages) and early 2019 (in 51 villages). The Mamasa District (West Sulawesi) would hold elections in 90 villages in June.

1. THE DISBURSEMENT AND REPORTING OF DD

The media reported that DD had been transferred to some districts, while many districts saw a delay mainly due to incomplete village budget realization reports submitted by the villages. As for the ADD, delays in some regions were reportedly caused by pending submission of annual village budget plans.

In East Kalimantan, DD totaling IDR 692 billion had been transferred through three State Treasury Offices (KPPN). The KPPN in Samarinda transferred DD to four districts, among others East Kutai, Kutai Kartanegara, West Kutai, Mahakam Ulu. Meanwhile, the KPPN in Balikpapan transferred DD to the Paser Penajam and Paser Utara districts and the KPPN in Tanjung Redeb transferred DD to the Berau District.

The media reported that DD had not been received in the districts of Nagan Raya in Aceh (222 villages), Ngada in East Nusa Tenggara or NTT (135 villages), Poso in Central Sulawesi (142 villages). The district governments were still waiting for the issuance of the 2017 Village Budget. Similarly, the West Bandung District and Northwest Aceh District also experienced a delay in DD transfer. In the latter, only dozens out of 132 villages have completed their accountability reports.

Three districts in the NTT (Belu, North Central Timor/TTU and Atambua) had not received Special Allocation Fund (DAK) and DD transfer. According to Head of State Treasury Office (KPPN) in Atambua Delfiana Lase, Directorate General of Fiscal Balance of the Ministry of Finance had not issued recommendation of DAK and DD transfers for these districts.

Sources:

- [Pemkab Poso Belum Terima Dana Desa](#) – Metrotvnews.com, April 19, 2017
- [Dana Desa untuk Ngada Belum Cair](#) – Kupang Pos, April 19, 2017
- [222 Desa Belum Terima Dana 2017](#) – Serambi Indonesia, April 19, 2017
- [Belum Dapat Rekomendasi Menkeu](#) – Kupang Pos, April 20, 2017
- [Alokasi Dana Desa Cair Jika Laporan Keuangan Beres](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, April 22, 2017
- [Rp 116 M Dana Desa di Abadya Belum Ditransfer](#) – Serambi Indonesia, April 22, 2017

2. CORRUPTION AND MISUSE

Two former village heads in the Majalengka District, namely the Babakan Kareo Village and Jatipamor Village, were arrested by the district attorney. They were accused of misusing IDR 200 billion of DD and grant from the provincial government in 2014.

In West Kalimantan and Aceh, the media reported protests from the community against the alleged misused of DD. In Aceh, a group of the Cot Goup Village community members of Bireuen District came to the District Attorney Office demanded the authority to announce the results of an investigation on DD corruption that was reported in February 2017. The district attorney stated the investigation is ongoing and would soon questions some village officials.

In West Kalimantan, around 150 villagers staged a protest demanding the Kubu Raya District Head to dismiss the Kampung Baru Village Head for his alleged involvement in misusing the 2016 DD fund. The protesters also expressed their disappointment with a recent agreement on village border with the neighboring Ambawang Village. They accused the village head of conducting negotiation process with the Ambawang Village without proper public consultation.

An anti-corruption women movement (SPAK) launched a program called TRATA, which would be used by SPAK's anti-corruption agents as a tool to monitor DD. SPAK claimed to have over 1,200 anti-corruption local agents, coming from various government and non-government institutions across the country, who would use the TRATA to report any irregularities on DD spending.

Sources:

- [*Korupsi Bantuan Desa 2 Mantan Kades Ditaban*](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, April 18, 2017
- [*Warga Cot Goup Datangi Kejari*](#) – Serambi Indonesia, April 18, 2017
- [*Breaking News: 150 Warga Gelar Aksi di Halaman Kantor Bupati Kubu Raya*](#) – Pontianak.tribunnews.com, April 20, 2017
- [*Breaking News: Desa Banyak Masalah dari Kades*](#) – Pontianak.tribunnews.com, April 20, 2017
- [*Perempuan Antikorupsi Soroti Dana Desa*](#) – Metrotvews.com, April 20, 2017

3. VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

In West Java, the Lebak District Head Iti Octavia Jayabaya stated that a computer-based village financial system would be implemented in Lebak this year. The system follows standards set out by the Supreme Audit Institution (BPK) and is integrated into the Ministry of Village's system. Each village would manage approximately IDR 1.1-1.4 billion annual budget.

The Temanggung District Government and the Regional House of Representative (DPRD) conducted a legal review on “polorogo”, a traditional practice of voluntary

payment in land transactions to village officials. Many districts in the province declared “polorogo” as illegal levies. In Temanggung District, land owner usually pay 4 per cent of total transaction as contribution to village officials who have helped the transaction process.

Separately, Acting Head of the Ombudsman Office in Central Java Sabardin Hulu, stated that in Central Java, most of complaints concerning illegal levies on land certification came from the Kendal District. The Central Java Governor has previously issued a circular on land certification fee, stipulating that any financial contribution from the community should be stipulated in a village regulation.

Vacant positions of village officials were reported in the Gresik and Semarang districts. The Gresik District Government (East Java) would begin a recruitment process to fill in approximately 400 village level positions in June. Meanwhile the Semarang District Government signed an agreement with a local university called Udinus in the selection of village officials. The university would be responsible for conducting computer-based written tests and interviews. As many as 1,021 candidates from 49 villages have registered.

Sources:

- [*Terapkan Pengelolaan Keuangan Berbasis Komputer*](#) – Radar Banten, April 20, 2017
- [*Pologoro Tidak Berdasar Hukum*](#) – Media Indonesia, April 18, 2017
- [*Gubernur Ganjar Benarkan Sertifikasi Tanah Desa Rawan Pungli*](#) – Tempo.co, April 22, 2017
- [*Kades Diminta Buat Perdes Sertifikasi*](#) – Suara Merdeka, April 22, 2017
- [*Perangkat Lowong, Pelayanan Terganggu*](#) – Jawa Pos, April 23, 2017
- [*Seleksi Aparatur Desa Kabupaten Semarang Kerja Sama Dengan Udinus*](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, April 22, 2017

4. AUDIT OF VILLAGE BUDGET

The Inspectorate Office of the Bireuen district (Aceh) had dispatched a team since early May to conduct an audit of the 2015 and 2016 village budgets. Head of the Inspectorate Office Hamdani, stated that the team had completed the audit in around 300 of 609 villages so far.

Meanwhile, in the Anambas District (Riau Islands) 11 villages had not submitted the 2016 Budget Realizations Report. A team from the Supreme Audit Institution (BPK) conducted audit in two villages; Bayat and Matak Kecil, which were reportedly had not submitted the 2016 Realization Report, both from the first and second semester.

Sources:

- [Sebelas Desa Belum Sampaikan SPJ Kegiatan 2016](#) – Batam Pos, April 19, 2017
- [Tim Inspektorat Audit Dana Desa 2015 dan 2016](#) – Serambi Indonesia, April 23, 2017

5. VILLAGE-OWNED ENTERPRISES (BUMDes)

The Minister of Village expected BUMDes to help control the commodity prices in view of the coming fasting month and the Eid Mubarak. The Minister stated that fluctuation of food supply and prices, which recurrently occur during the fasting month and Eid Mubarak, was attributed to profit taking by major wholesalers. In the villages, BUMDes could control prices of staple foods by collecting rice produced by the farmers and distributing the rice directly to consumers.

Source:

- [Bumdes Pastikan Stok Pangan untuk Lebaran Aman](#) – Indopos.co.id, April 20, 2017

6. EDUCATION

The Solo Municipal Government scheduled a computer-based exam for the participants of Kejar-C Program (Equivalence Education Program for Secondary Qualification). This year, 271 students were registered in Kejar-C Program in seven community learning centers.

In the Banyumas District (Central Java), 81,251 students from poor and near poor households had been registered as the recipients of the “Program Indonesia Pintar” (Smart Indonesian Program, PIP). To date, the financial assistance had been disbursed over 90 per cent or 73,632 students.

Sources:

- [Peserta Program Kejar Paket C Ikuti UNBK](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, April 18, 2017
- [Dana PIP 7.619 Siswa Belum Dicairkan](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, April 20, 2017

7. VILAGE HEAD ELECTIONS

In the Grobogan District (Central Java), 11 villages were headed by acting village heads until the next village head election conducted. In these 11 villages, the heads were no longer

active for several reasons including involvement in crime acts. Simultaneous elections would be held by the end of 2018 (in 222 villages) and early 2019 (in 51 villages).

Simultaneous village head elections would be held in 90 villages in the Mamasa District (West Sulawesi) in June this year. The Regional House of Representatives (DPRD) warned the government to take measures to anticipate possible social disturbance, considering the number of candidates running in the elections. The first stage of candidate's selection process, comprising of written tests and administrative checks, saw many demonstrations from the supporters.

In Central Java, 27 villages in the Bora District would hold village head election in July. Village-level election committees had been formed to prepare the elections.

Sources:

- [11 Desa Dipimpin Pejabat Sementara](#) – Suara Merdeka, April 21, 2017
- [Jelang Pilkades, Dewan Ajak Jaga Kamtibmas](#) – Fajar.co.id, April 19, 2017
- [Batas Akhir Pembentukan Panitia Pilkades Serentak 28 April](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, April 23, 2017

8. VILLAGE FACILITATORS

All-Indonesia Village Government Association (APDESI) of the Labuhanbatu District (North Sumatera) demanded the government to conduct a thorough evaluation on the performance of village facilitators. The association claimed to have received reports from village heads stating that a considerable number of facilitators did not have sufficient knowledge and skills required to assist the village officials.

Source:

- [Evaluasi Pendamping Desa](#) – Antaranews.com, April 20, 2017

9. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- JAKARTA: Expert criticized an agreement between the Ministry of Village and the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) to implement joint program in villages in transmigration areas. The agreement among other stipulates that the non-commissioned TNI officers posted in the village (“Bintara Pembina Desa”, Babinsa) would be trained to play a certain role in overseeing the DD utilization in the villages. ([Dana Desa Tak Bisa Diserahkan ke Babinsa](#) – Suara Pembaruan, April 17, 2017).

- EAST KALIMANTAN: The Bontang District experienced a budget deficit in 2017, in which the total district budget decreased from IDR 1.3 trillion last year to IDR 865 billion this year. Chairperson of Commission II at the Regional House of Representatives (DPRD) Ubayya Bengawan stated that his party would offer a proposal for the central government allocate fund to urban village (“kelurahan”) which is currently not eligible to receive village fund ([Minta Kelurahan Disamakan Dengan Desa](#) – Kaltim.prokal.co, April 20, 2017).
- CENTRAL JAVA: Child marriage prevalence in the Rembang District (Central Java) was reportedly high. A research by the Credos Institute and Plan International concluded that 50 per cent of women aged 15-24 years old have their first pregnancy before the age of 20. The research, conducted on 262 respondents, also suggested that low level of educational attainment was one of the factors behind child marriage ([Akses Edukasi Minim Picu Kehamilan Remaja](#) – Kompas, Apr 20).