

WEEKLY MEDIA MONITORING

HEADLINES

- **President Joko Widodo ordered the Minister of Health, the Minister of Social Affairs, and the Minister of Home Affairs to examine the causes of malnutrition in Asmat District, Papua.** Meanwhile, the Governor of Papua said the plan to relocate children with malnutrition in Asmat District does not restrict their access to the customary rights (*hak ulayat*).
 - **The Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing allocated Rp 11 trillion for labor-intensive programs in 5,000 locations,** primarily for irrigation channel and poor housing repairs.
 - The Coalition of the Indonesian Civil Society Organizations said **the Village Law implementation has been reduced to mere fund distribution and lacks gender perspective.**
 - **In Aceh, the Supreme Audit Agency (BPK) reported that 178 villages in Aceh Tenggara District continued to receive the village fund in 2017 despite the failure to submit the 2016 realization reports (SPJ).** In the district, the 2017 Village Fund Phase 2 has been disbursed to 90 out of 385 villages.
 - **The number of stunted children under five in Indonesia reaches 7.8 million (35.6 percent).** The province with the highest prevalence of stunting is Central Sulawesi (16.9 percent). The government aims to reduce the prevalence from 32.9 percent in 2015 to 28 percent in 2019.
 - **The Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) planned to hand over 4.38 million hectares of customary forests to indigenous peoples by 2019.** Currently, the government has recognized 1.4 million hectares of customary forests as part of its social forestry program.
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1. VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing allocated Rp 11 trillion for labor-intensive programs in 5,000 locations, primarily for irrigation channel and poor housing rehabilitation. The media reports that the wages in the cash-for-work vary from one district to another. In Banyuasin District, South Sumatra, the wages range from Rp 60,000 to Rp 90,000 per day, while in Rancagong Village, Tangerang District, it is only Rp 15 thousand per day for 10 days.

Former Finance Minister Chatib Basri suggested that the wages should be equal with the regional minimum wage (UMR) to avoid workers from other sectors protesting against the cash-for-work scheme.

The Coalition of the Indonesian Civil Society Organizations pointed that the Village Law implementation has four weaknesses. First, it is reduced to mere fund distribution. Second, the exploitation of natural resources in the villages marginalizes the village community. Third, the Village Law fails to protect people from the predatory behavior of local elites. Fourth, the Village Law lacks gender perspective.

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives (DPR RI) Taufik Kurniawan said the House would revise the Village Law to accommodate the functions of village apparatuses, such as the head of Rukun Tetangga (RT) and Rukun Warga (RW) – the neighborhood-level units below the village.

Sources:

- [Penerapan UU Desa Dievaluasi](#) – Kompas, Jan. 24, 2018
- [Taufik: Revisi UU Desa Akomodasi Perangkat Desa](#) – Antaranews.com, Jan. 25, 2018
- [Ketika Padat Karya Kembali Digulirkan](#) – Kompas, Jan. 28, 2018
- [Chatib Basri: Upah Dana Desa Jangan Lebihi UMR](#) – Antaranews.com, Jan. 27, 2018
- [Upah Dana Desa Jangan Lebihi UMR](#) – Kaltim.antaranews.com, Jan. 27, 2018
- [Senangnya Warga Ikut Program Padat Karya Jokowi](#) – Detik.com, Jan. 22, 2018

2. VILLAGE FUND DISBURSEMENT AND REPORTING

Aceh Supreme Audit Agency (BPK) reported that 178 villages in Aceh Tenggara District continued to receive the village fund in 2017 despite the failure to submit the 2016 realization reports (SPJ). In the district, the 2017 Village Fund Phase 2 has been disbursed to 90 out of 385 villages.

The Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Areas Development and Transmigration asked West Java Governor to issue a regulation to help speed up the disbursement of the Village Fund Phase 1 by end of January. Villages in 10 districts/cities in the province have not completed the 2018 village annual budget (APBDes) pending governor regulation.

In Temanggung District, Central Java, Rp 14 billion of village fund in 2017 was not absorbed because 65 percent of the villages failed to complete the projects on time.

Sources:

- [178 Gampong di Aceh Tenggara Tak Membuat SPJ Dana Desa Tahun 2016 Meski Sudah Ditarik 100 Persen](#) – Acehtribunnews.com, Jan. 24, 2018
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- [Dana Desa Tahap II 2017 Tak Akan Dicairkan, Ini Penegasan Kepala BPKD Aceh Tenggara](#) – Aceh.tribunnews.com, Jan. 26, 2018
- [Menanti Pergub Dana Desa](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, Jan. 24, 2018
- [Menteri Desa Desak Gubernur Segera Sahkan Pergub Dana Desa](#) – Pikiran-rakyat.com, Jan. 24, 2018
- [Sisa Dana Desa Tahun 2017 Capai Rp 14 Miliar](#) – Kompas, Jan. 22, 2018

3. CORRUPTION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

During this Village Fund reporting period, many village heads and village officials in various regions have been named as corruption suspects. In Cilacap District, Central Java, Jeruklegi Wetan village head is accused of embezzling Village Fund Allocation and using counterfeit money to pay the salary of the village apparatus.

In Mojokerto District, East Java, Kepuhanyar Village Head, a suspect in the embezzlement of Rp 690 million of the 2016 Village Fund, has been declared as fugitive after disappearing since last year.

In Serayan District, Central Kalimantan, Pangke Village Head is named as suspect of village budgets corruption within 2014 and 2016.

In Wonosobo District, Central Java, former Sikunang Village Head is named as in the Rp 298 million village fund corruption case.

In Sumba Barat Daya District, former acting village chief and treasurer of Matapiau Village, were named as suspects of a 2016 Village Fund corruption case.

The media also reported village fund corruption allegations by village heads in Belu District, Aceh Barat District, and Melawi District of West Kalimantan.

Sources:

- [Kades Gelapkan ADD Dan Edarkan Uang Palsu](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, Jan. 27, 2018
- [Gelapkan Dana, Kades Diringkus](#) – Kompas, Jan. 27, 2018
- [Selain Korupsi, Oknum Kades Ini Beri Gaji Perangkat Desanya dengan Uang Palsu](#) – Kompas.com, Jan. 26
- [Korupsi Dana Desa Rp 690 Juta, Kades Kepuhanyar-Mojokerto Buron](#) – Detik.com, Jan. 22, 2018
- [Oknum Kejari Minta Uang Rp 30 Juta](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 26, 2018
- [Polisi Dalami Dugaan Penyimpangan Dana Desa](#) – Serambi Indonesia, Jan. 25, 2018
- [Mantan Penjabat Kades Matapiau Ditahan](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 26, 2018
- [Korupsi Dana Desa, Pak Kades Dijemput Warga Dari Rumahnya](#) – Jppn.com, Jan. 25, 2018
- [Kades Jadi Tersangka Korupsi](#) – Serambi Indonesia Jan. 23, 2018
- [Diduga Korupsi Dana Desa, Mantan Kades Sikunang Ditahan](#) – Jawapos.com, Jan. 23, 2018

4. VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

The establishment of Watubain preparation village in Sikka District, East Nusa Tenggara, was hampered by the dismissal of the village selection committee members amid the protest against the subdistrict government's intervention in the village official selection process.

Source:

- [Pansel Perangkat Desa Watubain Bubar](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 23, 2018

5. HEALTH

President Joko Widodo ordered the Minister of Health, the Minister of Social Affairs, and the Minister of Home Affairs to find out the causes of malnutrition in Asmat District, Papua. Meanwhile, Papua Governor said the plan of relocating malnutrition patients in Asmat District does not restrict their access to the customary rights (*hak ulayat*).

The number of stunted children under five in Indonesia reaches 7.8 million people (35.6 percent). The province with the highest prevalence of stunting is Central Sulawesi (16.9 percent). The government aims to decrease the stunting prevalence from 32.9 percent in 2015 to 28 percent in 2019.

In Sidoarjo District, local health agency launched a mobile phone application called SI CANTIK that contains guidelines to reduce the risk of maternal mortality (AKI), and services on maternal health.

Sources:

- [Presiden Minta Dikaji Penyebab Gizi Buruk Papua](#) – Suara Pembaruan, Jan. 24, 2018
- [Gizi Buruk Sebabkan Stunting](#) – Koran Sindo, Jan. 25, 2018
- [Si Cantik Tekan Aki](#) – Jawa Pos, Jan. 23, 2018

6. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) planned to hand over 4.38 million hectares of customary forests to indigenous peoples by 2019. Currently, the government has recognized 1.4 million hectares of customary forests, as part of its social forestry program.

The Director General of Social Forestry and Environmental Partnership at MoEF said that only 4 percent of the forest is managed by the community. The government has been slow in recognizing indigenous forest, partly due to the prolonged process in the issuance of district bylaw (*perda*). In Lebak District, Banten, for example, the process of drafting a bylaw on indigenous people takes four years.

Aceh Provincial Government, through Aceh Green Program, proposes the recognition of 320,334 hectares of customary forest for 13 indigenous communities in Pidie, Aceh Besar, Aceh Jaya, and Aceh Barat Districts.

Sources:

- [Penetapan Hutan Adat Ditargetkan Seluas 4,38 Juta Hektare Pada 2019](#) – Koran Tempo, Jan. 24, 2018
- [Penetapan Hutan Adat Perlu Dipercepat](#) – Media Indonesia, Jan. 2, 2018
- [Aceh Usulkan 13 Kemungkinan Sebagai Hutan Adat](#) – Serambi Indonesia, Jan. 25, 2018
- [Aceh Usulkan 13 Hutan Adat](#) – Media Indonesia, Jan. 25, 2018

7. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- **WEST JAVA:** Karawang District government is drafting a regulation to involve lawyers to assist village governments in managing village funds ([Karawang Libatkan Pengacara Tangani Dana Desa](#) – Media Indonesia, Jan. 23, 2018).
- **EAST NUSA TENGGARA:** People in Baudaok Village, Belu District protested against the village government's decision to replace cattle donation program with cash ([Ternak Sapi Diganti Uang](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 23).
- **EAST NUSA TENGGARA:** In Ende District, Anaraja Village government used the village fund to pay midwives and nurse Rp 1.5 million and 1.25 million per month, respectively, to work at Village Health Post (Poskesdes) ([Kades Suleman Bersyukur Ada Poskesdes](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 22, 2018).
- **EAST NUSA TENGGARA:** Residents of Alas Utara Village in Belu District questioned the implementation of poor house rehabilitation program where beneficiaries claimed to only have received certain materials and must cover other costs ([Sekdes Dan Bendahara Mengaku Tak Tahu](#) – Kupang Pos, Jan. 25, 2018).
- **ACEH:** Six villages in Banda Aceh City and Aceh Besar District received the award for the best village fund management in 2017 ([Enam Gampong Terima Penghargaan DJPB Aceh](#) – Aceh.tribunnews.com, Jan. 25 2018).
- **EAST JAVA:** Jambewangi Village was chosen to represent Banyuwangi District in health competition at the province level due to its various innovations of health programs for infant and pregnant mothers ([Kaya Inovasi Desa Jambewangi Wakili Banyuwangi Lomba PKK Jatim](#) – Detik.com, Jan 24, 2018).
- **EAST JAVA:** Tangsil Village Chief in Bondowoso District was dismissed after he was found guilty of narcotics possession and was sentenced to eight years imprisonment ([Divonis 8 Tahun Kasus Narkoba, Kades di Bondowoso ini Akan Dipecat](#) – Detik.com, Jan. 26).

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