

## VILLAGE RESOURCES BASED COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

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### **Abstract**

*Community development program being implemented in some villages in Indonesia has been running long enough; even some villages have managed to put together a program to reduce poverty with the help of a facilitator appointed by the national program of empowerment community. The preparation program should involve the participation of the community, especially the poor, but in fact much more dominated by the facilitators with limited understanding of the whole village resources. Therefore, program that had been developed theoretically feasible, but in practice still requires a deeper study. This study will try to complement poverty reduction programs in West Cileunyi village based on community empowerment through village resources. To assess the resources of the village could be the basis of empowerment and community expectations about future conditions used qualitative analysis, whereas to determine the priority of community empowerment programs used quantitative analysis with the approach of Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP). Based on the excellent resources of village were identified, the community development program disaggregated by specific target group. The result were: assisting management, innovation, and entrepreneurship to the industry and business owners target group, preservation of the environment for the target group of farmers and farmer groups, motivation to work for the target group drop out of the labor force, an increase in the ability of the administration to the target group of village officials, and the importance of social capital for the general public target group.*

**Keywords:** *community empowerment program, priorities, target groups, village resources*

**INTRODUCTION**

Cileunyi Kulon Village in 2011 has received the assistance program of national program of rural community empowerment and has already arranged a program to reduce poverty with the help of facilitators appointed by the national program of community empowerment. The preparation program should involve the participation of the community, especially the poor, in fact much more dominated by the facilitators with limited understanding of the resources of the whole village. Therefore, programs that had been developed theoretically feasible, but in practice the programs require deeper study.

In the poverty alleviation program explained that there are still

many problems faced by the society of Cileunyi Kulon, related aspects: health, education, economic, and environmental. One of the fundamental problems that can be identified is not exploited of local knowledge in empowering local communities. In the report also mentioned the resources that exists in Cileunyi Kulon village, but they have not been explored in depth.

Based on the description above, this research will try to complement poverty reduction programs in Cileunyi Kulon through village resources based community empowerment. Through this research it can be identified community empowerment programs that are feasible to be implemented as priority in Cileunyi Kulon Village.

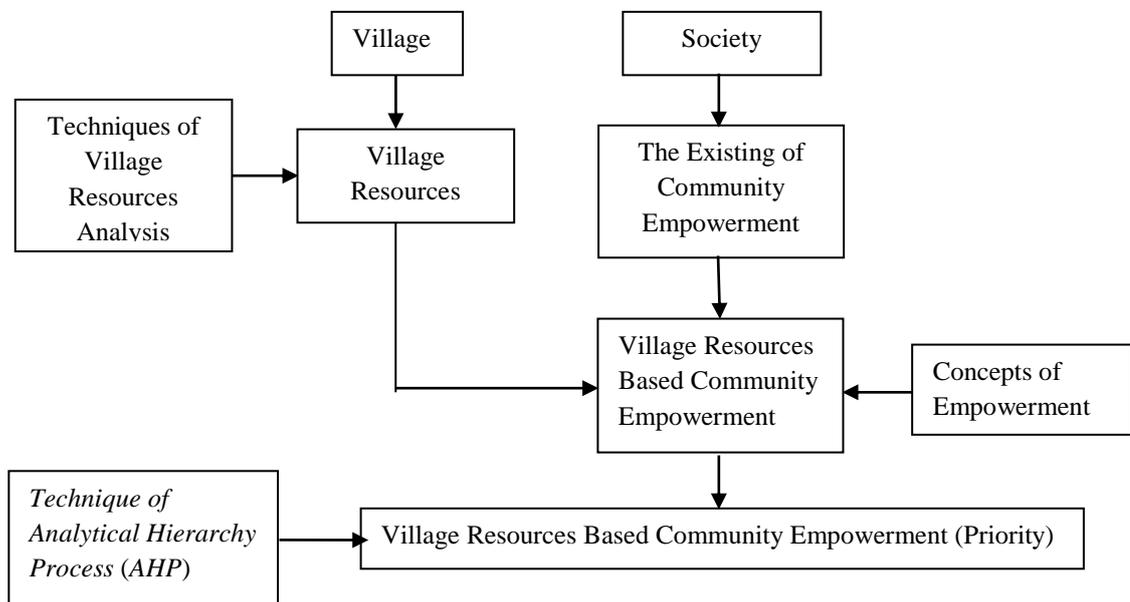


Figure 1 Frame of Thinking

## RESEARCH METHOD

The design used in this study is exploratory case study. Through exploratory, then it can develop the concept more clearly and priorities. Some of the tools used in the exploratory study are: literature searches, experience surveys, focus groups, and a two-stage approach. While case studies can be used for policy research, political science, communications, public administration, and urban planning management. This method is well suited to answer the question how and why.

Sources of data used in this study were as follows:

- (1) Primary data; i.e. data obtained directly from the original source, namely the respondent. In this study, the respondents were: Cileunyi Kulon Village head and staff members and community leaders in the Cileunyi Kulon Village.
- (2) Secondary data; i.e. data obtained from the earlier data source that has been collected and reported by others outside the researcher, such as: data on the village monograph, the types of community development has been implemented, and the results of previous relevant studies.

Based on the data needed, data collection techniques used in this study were

- a. Interviews; conducted with respondents to obtain a community empowerment that has been implemented and the benefit

were received by society of Cileunyi Kulon Village

- b. Observations; researcher involved with the activity being observed, as in the focus group discussion. With these observations, the data obtained will be more complete, sharp, and in accordance with reality. Beside, to see the potential of natural resources in the village of Cileunyi Kulon required observations quite thoroughly. The observations then can be written in the provided form.

Measurement data was using nominal scales for the categorization of each resource in Cileunyi Kulon Village. While to determine the priority was used the ordinal scale, which is then used as a data source in the AHP technique.

The stages in the AHP process were to identify, to understand and to assess the interactions of the existing system. Assessment was done by using pairwise comparisons of the elements at a level hierarchical decision making by using a value scale of measurement that can distinguish the transformation in the form of opinions (qualitative) into a numeric value (quantitative). Level of opinions validity was depending on the consistency and accuracy of opinions. AHP general hierarchical model can be seen in Figure 2 below:

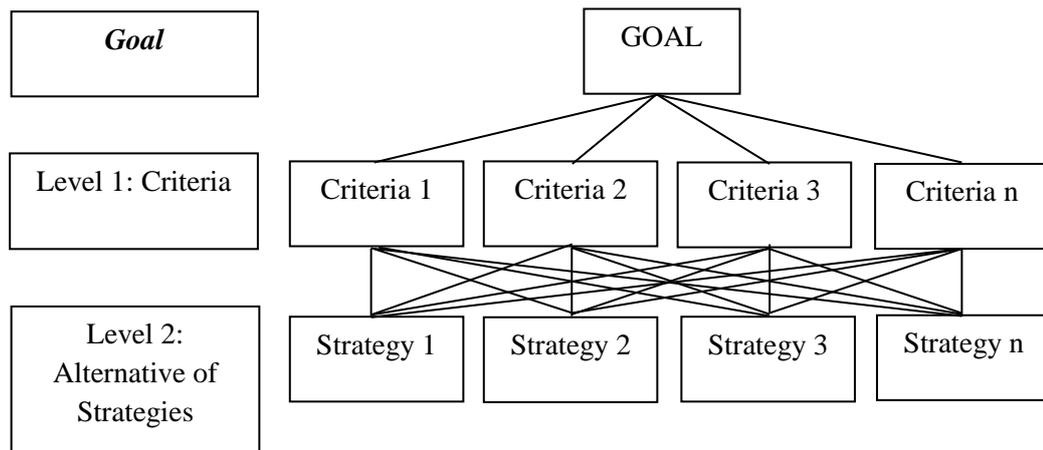


Figure 2 *AHP* Hierarchy Model (Saaty, 1993)

In this research, assessment criteria and alternatives is to compare each alternative strategies that exist in pairs. According to Saaty in Marimin (2004) scale of 1 to 9 is the

best scale in expressing opinions. Value and the definition of a qualitative opinion of Saaty comparison scale can be seen in the table below:

Table 1 Comparison Scale in Pairs

Scale	Meaning	Description
1	equal importance	Criteria/Alternative A is as important as the criteria/alternative B
3	moderate importance	A slightly more important than B
5	essential/strong importance	A clearly more important than B
7	very strong importance	A very obviously more important than B
9	extreme importance	A is absolutely more important than B
2,4,6,8	It is a compromise between the above assessment	If in doubt between two adjacent values

Source: Saaty (1993)

Analysis of the data was grouping, creating a sequence, manipulating, and compressing the data so it was easy to read. The first step in the analysis was to divide the

data into groups or categories. In this study, interview data were grouped to see the kinds of empowerment that has been done and the results.

Furthermore, the village resources will be given a score based on existing guidelines, so it can be identified village excellent resources that can support the process of community empowerment in Cileunyi Kulon Village. Excellent resources were then adjusted to society's expectations about suitable

empowerment to be implemented in the village of Cileunyi Kulon. Based on the purpose of empowerment and also the criteria that will be determined later, it would seem that the priority community empowerment to be implemented was in accordance with the resources and desire of the local community.

## DISCUSSION

### Identifying of Excellent Resources of Cileunyi Kulon Village

Based on interviews and observations it can be seen that Cileunyi Kulon Village was the village that has a variety of resources such as human resources, natural resources, economy, education, infrastructure and facilities environmental and also non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Natural resource owned by the Village of Cileunyi Kulon was area of 374,240 ha of agricultural land with cassava seed crops. This resource was used as a raw material for making cassava chips which is the main income of some families in the village of Cileunyi Kulon. Other plants that have the potential to benefit from an economic perspective are corn, tomatoes, and red onion, although marketing was not maximized. The agricultural resources were supported also by the farmer groups that are expected to improve agriculture of Cileunyi Kulon Village.

Other economic resource that could be developed to improve the welfare of society of Cileunyi Kulon village was home industry

boiler with marketing was quite broad, even reaching outside of Java. Other products that have been successfully produced and marketed large enough were lightweight stainless steel and oven as household consumption. Another economic resource was small stalls were managed by the residents in Cileunyi Kulon Village that were approximately 36 stalls.

Economic resource in Cileunyi Kulon Village in the long term can be used as a medium to improve the welfare of the people so they can become independent economically, given available human and institutional resources were adequate support. Human resource potential that can be used as the carrying capacity of the high number of labor force that can be used to work on the existing economic resource. In addition, the education level of society of Cileunyi Kulon Village was fairly well, because it has almost no illiterate even they had much to higher education. Form of institutions that were still running in the Village of Cileunyi Kulon was LPMD (Institution of Village Community Empowerment), BPD (Village Representative Body), MUI (Indonesian Ulema Council), PKK

(Family Welfare Program)/integrated service post, Public Protection. The potential of these institutions can be used as a venue to share with each other, share the role and information. With effective empowerment programs, it will be interwoven

### **Identifying the Types of Excellent Resources Based Community Empowerment**

Talking about empowerment program, it has actually been a lot of initiatives undertaken by the central government through the National Program for Community Empowerment (PNPM) which has been going on since 2008. PNPM more physically oriented, so do not be surprised if the environmental conditions of Cileunyi Kulon Village already relatively clean and well organized. Since the beginning PNPM has been trying to improve the environmental infrastructure such as roads, sanitation, clean water, bridges, and drainage.

Some social-oriented empowerment programs were helping the integrated service post, nursing allowances, scholarships for school children and the procurement of calibration scales. Even in 2011-2012 PNPM in collaboration with the Department of Labor held some sewing courses for women. Then in 2013 PNPM disbursed 150 million rupiahs for the Self Help Groups in every neighborhood in the Village of Cileunyi Kulon.

All community empowerment programs implemented under the coordination of the PNPM was very good to help the poor increase their welfare. But

optimal synergy between the existing resources. The encouragement of local government and local communities was enthusiastic form of programs that aim to improve the welfare of the people in the village of Cileunyi Kulon.

in practice it was assessed and perceived by the public still has not touched the needs of society as a whole. PNPM conducted independently without involving intensive village government in this case village government only became a partner in community empowerment at this village.

In fact, more people become objects they were not treated as a subject that can give direction in empowering rural communities. The role of facilitators recruited by PNPM was still too dominant in determining the future direction of community empowerment. Though the village government and society hopes were able to be actively involved in community development programs so it knows what is perceived and desired in the long term, and also knowing the obstacles, challenges and opportunities that can be achieved. Of course this can run smoothly if there were excellent resources that has really empowered optimally. It takes synergy between all stakeholders in community empowerment programs in the village of Cileunyi Kulon.

Based on the excellent resources, village official and local community expectation then it can be identified some of the community empowerment program that was expected to meet the wishes of all parties, and in the long term it could

make society more economically independent. Here are some of the proposed community empowerment programs:

**A. Target Group: Home Industries and Business Owners**

- 1) Assisting of Production Engineering (A1)
- 2) Assisting of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (A2)
- 3) Assisting of Marketing (A3)
- 4) Assisting of Capital (A4)

**B. Target Group: Farmers and Group of Farmers**

- 1) Improvement of Agricultural Productivity (B1)
- 2) Preservation of Environmental (B2)
- 3) Appropriate Technology of Agricultural (B3)

**C. Target Group: Labor Force Dropouts**

- 1) Improvement of Skill (C1)
- 2) Motivation of Work (C2)
- 3) Innovation and Entrepreneurship (C3)

**D. Target Group: Village Official**

- 1) Improvement of Administration Capacity (D1)
- 2) Management of Village Government (D2)
- 3) Importance of Partnership Pattern (D3)

**E. Target Group: General Society**

- 1) Society Organization (E1)
- 2) Protecting of Environmental (E2)
- 3) Importance of Social Capital (E3)

**Priority of Excellent Resources Based Community Empowerment**

As already described in the previous chapter, to determine the priority community empowerment programs to be implemented will use the model Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP). AHP model structure to be used requires a goal (purpose), criteria, and alternative of empowerment programs to be selected as a priority. Based on the study of alternative selection theories and the results of discussions with respondents in research location, it can be determined that the three aspects related to the selection of the

priority of community empowerment programs as follows:

- Goal (Purpose) : Selecting of Empowerment Program Priority
- Criteria : Cost, Time, Benefit, and Involvement of Society
- Alternative : 16 of Empowerment Programs (A1, A2, A3, A4, B1, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3, D1, D2, D3, E1, E2, and E3).

Structure of model completely can be seen in the figure below

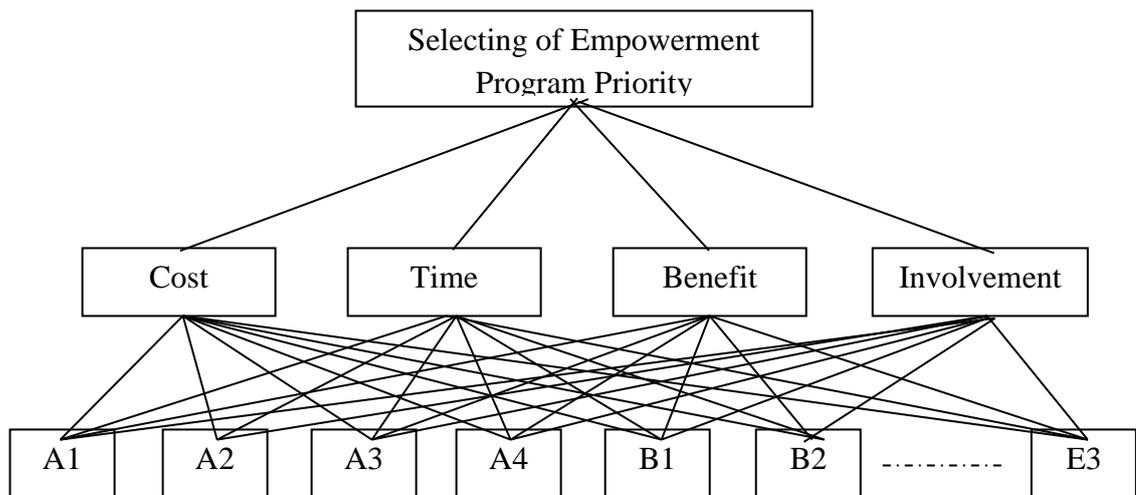


Figure 3 Hierarchy Model of Community Empowerment Program in Cileunyi Kulon Village

The next step was to create a matrix in pairs for each of the criteria and alternatives based on certain criteria. The following table shows the pairwise matrix for the four criteria used, after weighting was done through a process of discussion and interviews with respondents comprising: village officials, Village Representative Body (BPD), Youth Club, Family Welfare Program (PKK), Institution of Village Community Resilience

(LKMD), businesses, and community leaders.

Based on a complete calculation then it can be determined the eigenvector values of each criterion. This value indicates the ranking of importance of each criterion with a consistency index of 0.03. Thus the data were considered consistent because consistency index values less than 0.1. Here was the order of the criteria with the value of each eigenvector.

Table 1 Order of Criteria

Order	Criteria	Eigenvector
1	Benefit	0,53
2	Involvement	0,29
3	Cost	0,13
4	Time	0,06

Source: Result of Calculation

From the table it can be concluded that the benefit was the most preferred criteria in order to determine the priority of community empowerment program in the Village

of Cileunyi Kulon. But to determine the order of priority community empowerment programs it has to do a comparison of each alternative based on four criteria of community

empowerment program. In order the analysis was reflect actual conditions better, so the comparison matrix of each alternative based on four criteria were separated based on the

target group. The following table shows the types of community empowerment were suitable to be implemented on specific target groups based on each criterion.

Table 3 Types of Community Empowerment Program Suitable For Specific Target Groups

Target Group	Criteria				
	Benefit	Involvement	Cost	Time	Overall
Home Industries and Business Owners	Assisting of Marketing	Assisting of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship	Assisting of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship	Assisting of Production Engineering	Assisting of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship
Farmers and Group of Farmers	Preservation of Environmental	Preservation of Environmental	Preservation of Environmental	Improvement of Agricultural Productivity	Preservation of Environmental
Labor Force Dropouts	Motivation of Work	Improvement of Skill	Motivation of Work	Improvement of Skill	Motivation of Work
Village Official	Improvement of Administration Capability	Improvement of Administration Capability	Improvement of Administration Capability	Improvement of Administration Capability	Improvement of Administration Capability
General Public	Importance of Social Capital	Importance of Social Capital	Importance of Social Capital	Organization of Community	Importance of Social Capital

Source: Result of Analysis

The implementation of community empowerment programs in the village of Cileunyi Kulon should be made gradually appropriate priorities that were discussed in the previous section. Community empowerment must be

done continuously and periodically evaluated for its success. The evaluation results can then be used to improve the quality of empowerment programs in order the aim to create a prosperous and self-sufficient society in various aspects can be achieved.

**CONCLUSION**

The following were the conclusions that can be drawn after the collection, processing, and analysis of the data obtained in the research location.

- (1) Excellent resources of Cileunyi Kulon Village were agriculture with cassava seed crops, the economic resources such as home industry of manufacture of boiler which has had the market

to outside Java. The supporting resource was strong enough was the institutional resource possessed by the village government of Cileunyi Kulon.

- (2) Based on the excellent resources of Cileunyi Kulon Village, it can be further identified the types of empowerment that were suitable to be implemented in the village of Cileunyi Kulon based on specific target groups.

- Target Group: Home Industries and Business Owners
    - Assisting of Production Engineering
    - Assisting of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship
    - Assisting of Marketing
    - Assisting of Capital
  - Target Group: Farmers and Group of Farmers
    - Improvement of Agricultural Productivity
    - Preservation of Environmental
    - Appropriate Technology of Agricultural
  - Target Group: Labor Force Dropouts
    - Improvement of Skill
    - Motivation of Work
    - Innovation and Entrepreneurship
  - Target Group: Village Official
    - Improvement of Administration Capacity
  - Management of Village Government
  - Importance of Partnership Pattern
  - Target Group: General Public
    - Society Organization
    - Protecting of Environmental
    - Importance of Social Capital
- (3) The priority of community development programs to be implemented for each target groups were:
- Assisting of management, innovation, and entrepreneurship for home industry and business owners target group
  - Preservation of environmental for farmers and groups of farmer target group
  - Motivation of work for labor force dropouts target group
  - Improvement of administrative capacity for village officials target group
  - Importance of social capital for the general public target group.

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