

Original Articles

Effectiveness of Village Fund Policy in Economic and Infrastructure Development in Pringgajurang Village, Montong Gading District

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This article contributes to:



Abstract. This study aims to determine the effectiveness of village fund policies in economic and infrastructure development in Pringga Jurang Village, Montong Gading District. This study aims to determine and analyze the extent to which the effectiveness of the Village Fund policy in economic and infrastructure development in Pringga Jurang Village. This study uses a combination method approach (Mixed Methods), namely by combining qualitative and quantitative methods in order to analyze facts and events with the use of Village Fund Effectiveness. The population and sample in this study were the Pringga Jurang community with 95 samples. The results of this study indicate that the Effectiveness of the Village Fund Policy in Economic and Infrastructure Development in Pringga Jurang Village has been effective. This can be seen from the first planning indicator with a score of 80.78% which indicates that the village government in planning economic and infrastructure development has been effective. The second implementation indicator with a score of 79.78% which indicates that the process of implementing economic and infrastructure development has been effective. The third indicator of supervision and transparency with a score of 80.86% which indicates that the transparency reporting process has been effective.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Village Funds, Economic Development and Infrastructure.

1. Introduction

Development is one of the main issues in Indonesia, especially in rural areas. Many villages in Indonesia, especially remote ones, still experience minimal development due to limited attention from the government [1]. Proper infrastructure development in rural areas can increase community motivation to progress and be able to compete with other villages, in order to realize independent and prosperous villages. As the most basic government area, villages are regulated in Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, replacing Law Number 22 of 1999 and No. 32 of 2004. With the enactment of this law, villages are expected to be able to manage their local potential independently for sustainable social and economic development [2].

The village as the smallest legal community unit that has territorial boundaries that are authorized to regulate and manage the interests of its community based on local origins and customs that are recognized and respected by the state. Rural development should be directed towards improving the welfare of rural communities [3]. Empowerment of rural communities can also be seen as an effort to accelerate rural development through the provision of facilities and infrastructure to empower the community, and efforts to accelerate effective regional economic development. Rural development is multi-aspect, therefore it is necessary to be related to sectors and aspects outside the village so that it can become a solid foundation for national development [4].

Regional economic development, especially at the village level, is a very crucial topic but often gets less attention in macroeconomic discourse [5]. In fact, our villages are the foundation of the nation's economic and social structure. They are not only the buffers of food security and natural resources, but also the guardians of local wisdom. Village development can be defined as the process of improving the quality of life and welfare of rural communities through increasing access to resources, services, and

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economic opportunities. This includes various aspects including infrastructure, education, health, economy, and community empowerment [6].

The Village Fund Policy is one of the central government's strategic steps to encourage development at the rural level [7]. Through significant fund allocation, it is expected that villages can develop infrastructure and improve community welfare. Pringgajurang Village, as one of the villages receiving Village Funds, has great potential to utilize these funds in economic and infrastructure development. However, the effectiveness of the use of Village Funds is often questioned, especially in the context of achieving the expected development goals [8].

Although Village Funds have been provided to villages, there are still various challenges faced in the Effectiveness of the use of these funds [9]. Some of the challenges faced include low community involvement in the implementation and development, lack of transparency in fund management, and minimal public understanding of the importance of economic and infrastructure development in villages. (Indonesian Audit Board, 2022; Ministry of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration, 2023). The implementation of Village Funds also faces various challenges, including managerial problems, potential misuse, and mismatches between the projects implemented and the needs of the community. Therefore, it is important to evaluate how Village Funds impact economic and infrastructure development in Pringgajurang Village and identify the factors that influence the Effectiveness of this policy.

Data from the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration noted that there is a large disparity in the utilization of Village Funds between one region and another. Pringgajurang Village, as one of the recipients of Village Funds in Montong Gading District, East Lombok, has great potential, but also faces similar challenges. Pringgajurang Village has abundant natural resources, such as agricultural land, livestock and plantation products, but their management is not yet optimal. Therefore, it is important to evaluate the extent to which the Village Fund policy is effective in encouraging economic and infrastructure development in this village [10].

This research is important to be conducted considering the large allocation of Village Funds and the high expectations of the community for improving the quality of life. By knowing the extent of the effectiveness of the use of Village Funds, it is expected to provide input for the village government in better planning, implementation, and supervision in the future. The purpose of this study is to determine and analyze the effectiveness of Village Fund policies in economic and infrastructure development in Pringgajurang Village, Montong Gading District.

2. Method

This study uses a mixed methods approach, which is an approach that combines quantitative and qualitative methods in one research framework. Although some people say that this method is not new, this approach is innovative in terms of design and data integration from both types of approaches. In line with the opinion of Mukumbang [11], mixed research is a design that not only includes data collection and analysis methods but also involves a philosophical foundation that underlies the entire research process as a whole. This approach allows for the combination of qualitative and quantitative data at various stages of the research in a comprehensive manner [12].

The population in this study were all Heads of Families (KK) in Pringgajurang Village, Montong Gading District, East Lombok Regency, totaling 1,747 households. The sample was taken using the Slovin formula with a margin of error of 10%. Based on the calculation, the number of samples determined was 95 respondents, consisting of village

officials and the community. Sampling was carried out randomly to ensure that the representation of the data obtained remained relevant to the population studied.

The location of this research was carried out in Pringgajurang Village, Montong Gading District, East Lombok Regency. The data collection techniques used in this study consisted of three methods, namely observation, interviews, and documentation. Observations were carried out to obtain a direct picture of the social and environmental conditions of the study, in accordance with Satori's explanation Smith [13] that observation in qualitative research is an activity of direct observation of objects without intervention to understand the situation and meaning contained therein. Interviews were conducted with the Village Head, Village Deliberative Body, and the community, along with filling out questionnaires to obtain answers to the Statements submitted directly. While the documentation method was used to collect secondary data in the form of official documents, written notes, and photos related to the Effectiveness of the use of village funds.

The types of data used in this study consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data were obtained directly from the results of interviews and questionnaires distributed to the community and village officials, which are related to perceptions of the effectiveness of village fund policies in economic and infrastructure development. Meanwhile, secondary data were obtained through literature studies and documentation, in the form of reports, documents, and statistical data relevant to the research object. The data analysis technique in this study uses descriptive statistical analysis methods for quantitative data. Descriptive statistical analysis is used to process frequency and percentage data in order to obtain meaningful information. The formula used in frequency analysis is:

$$P = FN \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

with P as percentage, F as frequency of answers, and N as number of samples. To measure Effectiveness, percentage calculation is used by comparing the total score of respondents' answers to the maximum possible score, namely:

$$Efektivitas(e) = \frac{\sum x_{max}}{\sum X_{max}} \times 100\% \quad (2)$$

The research instrument consists of several tools, namely the researcher as the main instrument, questionnaire, interview guide, and observation sheet. The questionnaire instrument is designed with a Likert scale, which consists of four answer choices to measure the Effectiveness of village fund use, namely: Very Effective (SE) with a score of 4, Effective (E) with a score of 3, Ineffective (TE) with a score of 2, and Very Ineffective (STE) with a score of 1. This scale is used to measure respondents' perceptions of various aspects of the use of village funds in rural economic and infrastructure development.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Validation Test Results

Validity is a measure that shows the extent to which the collected data truly reflects the actual conditions or information of the object being studied [14]. In other words, validity refers to the conformity between the data obtained and the reality or existing facts. To test the validity of an instrument, a plausibility check is carried out to assess the level of accuracy and truth of the instrument in measuring what should be measured. Validity testing is usually done by comparing the calculated r and table r values. An instrument is said to be valid if the calculated r value is greater than the table r (calculated

$r > \text{table } r$). Conversely, if the calculated r value is smaller or equal to the table r (calculated $r \leq \text{table } r$), then the instrument is declared invalid.

Table 1. Validity and Reliability Test Results

Indicator	Sub-indicators	r_{xy}	r_{table}	Cronbach α	Information
Planning	Statement 1	0.790	0.202	0.959	Valid and Reliable
	Statement 2	0.867	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 3	0.878	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 4	0.849	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 5	0.858	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 6	0.875	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 7	0.864	0.202		Valid and Reliable
Implementation	Statement 1	0.884	0.202	0.976	Valid and Reliable
	Statement 2	0.875	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 3	0.836	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 4	0.843	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 5	0.844	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 6	0.900	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 7	0.901	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 8	0.821	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 9	0.907	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 10	0.886	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 11	0.905	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Statement 12	0.914	0.202		Valid and Reliable
Oversight and Transparency	Pernyataan 1	0.885	0.202	0.966	Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 2	0.893	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 3	0.898	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 4	0.867	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 5	0.856	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 6	0.864	0.202		Valid and Reliable
	Pernyataan 7	0.890	0.202		Valid and Reliable

This validity test uses 95 samples. Based on the results of data validation, it can be seen that the value obtained is greater than the value (0.202). then it can be said that all elements of the Statement used are valid. The results of the reliability carried out show that the cronbach's alpha value is greater than the value (0.6) then it can be said to be reliable.

3.2 Data Analysis Results

3.2.1 Effectiveness of Economic and Infrastructure Development through Village Funds

Economic and infrastructure development at the village level is said to be effective if the percentage value of achievement is more than 64%, as shown in Table 4.5. The Effectiveness Criteria are divided into four categories, namely: very effective (82%–100%), effective (64%–81%), ineffective (45%–63%), and very ineffective ($\leq 44\%$). This assessment is a reference in measuring the success of the utilization of village funds in supporting development in various fields. One of the main factors that determines the Effectiveness of the utilization of village funds is the planning aspect. Thorough and participatory planning is the basic foundation to ensure that the allocation and use of village funds are in accordance with the real needs and priorities of the community. Through the planning stages, the village government can identify problems in the community, formulate clear development goals, and compile relevant programs and activities in order to systematically answer these needs [15].

Within the framework of village fund management, the village government is obliged to prepare planning documents consisting of two main types, namely: the Village

Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMDesa) for a six-year period, and the Village Government Work Plan (RKPDesa) which is prepared annually as an elaboration of the RPJMDesa. The RPJMDesa contains the vision, mission, policy direction, and strategic priorities for village development, while the RKPDesa details the annual activities to be implemented in one budget year.

In order to be in line with development policies at the district/city level, the preparation of the RPJMDesa must be synchronized with the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD). This synchronization aims to ensure integration between development at the village level and regional development as a whole, so that synergy is created that encourages growth and community welfare at large. The results of the preparation of village fund planning documents can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Results of the assessment of the Aspects of Effectiveness of Economic Development and Infrastructure

Rated aspect	Very Effective (f, %)	Effective (f, %)	Not Effective (f, %)	Very Ineffective (f, %)
Preparation of Village Fund Planning Documents	14.15	45.47	21.22	15.16
Priority Scale Preparation in Village Development Planning	22.23	28.29	27.28	18.19
Village Government Pays Attention to Village Potential in Village Development Planning	22.23	33.35	24.25	16.17
Village Government Pays Attention to Village Needs in Village Development Planning	21.22	39.41	19.20	16.17
Development Planning Compiled from Village Deliberations	26.27	38.40	18.19	13.14
Community Involvement in Village Deliberations	27.28	29.31	20.21	19.20

Table 2 shows the Effectiveness of the preparation of Village Fund planning documents. Based on the data, as many as 47% of respondents considered that the preparation of the RPJMDesa in accordance with the RPJMDarah was effective. In addition, 15% of respondents stated that the preparation of this document was very effective. However, there were still 22% of respondents who considered this process ineffective, and another 16% considered it very ineffective. Each village has different development priorities. This is due to differences in geographical, social, economic, and cultural conditions in each village. Therefore, in preparing a development plan, it is important for villages to determine a priority scale that is in accordance with local needs and potential. This priority scale is a strategic guide in directing development programs and activities to be more effective, efficient, and on target.

The preparation of village development priority scales is usually carried out through participatory mechanisms, such as village deliberations (musdes), which involve various elements of society ranging from village government, community leaders, women's groups, youth, to representatives of vulnerable groups. In this forum, various proposals and problems of residents are collected and analyzed to determine which are the most urgent and provide the greatest benefits to the community at large.

Table 2 further shows the Effectiveness of priority scale preparation in village development planning. Based on the data, the majority of respondents, namely 29%, considered that priority scale preparation was effective, while 23% of respondents considered it very effective. However, there were still 29% of respondents who considered this process less effective, and another 19% thought that priority scale preparation was very ineffective. Because the village funds received by each village are limited, it is very important for the village government to be able to manage and allocate

the budget wisely and efficiently. In this case, the village cannot arbitrarily determine the programs or activities to be carried out. Everything must be adjusted to the potential and real needs of the community.

Each village has different strengths and challenges. There are villages that have great potential in agriculture, some excel in tourism, livestock, or handicrafts. Therefore, the use of village funds should be directed to support and develop these potentials in order to provide long-term benefits for the economy of the residents. From the results of observations and input from the community, in general they support the use of village funds that are adjusted to local potential. They feel that this approach is more appropriate, because it has a direct impact on increasing income and welfare of residents. This means that when village funds are used to support the village's superior potential, the results will be more pronounced and sustainable.

Thus, it is important for the village government to always involve the community in the planning process, so that every rupiah spent truly answers the needs and is able to maximize the potential in each village. Table 4 then shows that the majority of respondents assessed that the village government has considered the village potential in development planning. As many as 35% of respondents stated that this process was effective, while 23% considered it very effective. However, there were 25% of respondents who considered this preparation less effective, and 17% thought that it was very ineffective. Thus, although the majority of respondents assessed that village development planning had considered the potential, there were still some people who felt that this aspect needed to be improved in order to be more optimal in its implementation. In carrying out its duties, the village government (Pemdes) has a great responsibility to ensure that village development runs according to the needs of the community [16]. Village development planning is not carried out carelessly, but through a process that considers real conditions in the field as well as aspirations that come directly from residents. This is important so that every development program and activity implemented is truly beneficial and directly touches the interests of the community.

One of the main principles held by the Village Government in development planning is based on the real needs of the village [17]. This means that before determining what programs will be implemented, the Village Government must first identify and map the problems that exist in the community. For example, does the village still lack access to clean water? Is the main village road damaged and making it difficult for residents to move around? Or do people need training to improve their work skills? By considering the needs of the village in every stage of planning, it is hoped that the development carried out can be more effective, efficient, and sustainable. The Village Government not only carries out its mandate, but also becomes a facilitator that directs the potential of the village to grow and develop independently. This is in line with the main objective of village development, namely to improve community welfare and create an advanced, independent, and prosperous village.

Village development planning, the village government has considered the needs of the community with various levels of effectiveness. As many as 41% of respondents considered that attention to village needs in development planning was effective, while 22% of respondents considered it very effective [18]. However, there were still 20% of respondents who felt that this planning was less effective, and another 17% considered that attention to village needs in planning was very ineffective. The preparation of village development plans is indeed the main responsibility of the village government. However, in order for the results to be truly beneficial and on target, community participation is very important. The involvement of villagers in this process makes planning more open

and in accordance with real needs in the field. One way to make development more effective is to apply a priority scale, namely determining which needs are the most urgent to be met first [19].

Through this priority scale, the community is invited to participate in determining the type of development that is most needed, for example road repairs, bridge construction, or clean water provision. This process is usually carried out in a village discussion forum, where residents can convey their suggestions, opinions, and hopes directly. In this way, the community not only becomes the beneficiary of development, but also plays an active role in its planning. As a result, village development becomes more efficient, fair, and sustainable. The following are community opinions regarding the planning compiled in the village discussion forum (see Table 6).

Village development planning has been prepared through village deliberations with varying levels of effectiveness [20]. Based on the data, the majority of respondents, namely 40%, considered that planning through village deliberations was effective, while 27% considered it very effective. On the other hand, there were 19% of respondents who considered that this process was less effective, and 14% stated that village deliberations in development planning were very ineffective. Thus, overall, 67% of respondents considered that village deliberations were an effective method in preparing village development plans. However, there were still 33% of respondents who felt that this mechanism was not yet fully optimal. This shows that although village deliberations are an important forum for the community to provide input related to development, efforts are still needed to improve their implementation so that they are more inclusive and have a real impact on all villagers [21].

Community involvement in village deliberations is very important because it provides an opportunity for residents to express their opinions, suggestions, and needs directly. Through village deliberations, the community can help determine the direction of development that is truly in accordance with the conditions and priorities of the village. With this participation, the decisions taken become fairer, more transparent, and supported by all levels of society. In addition, village deliberations also strengthen the sense of togetherness and shared responsibility in developing the village. Table 2 also shows the level of community involvement in village deliberations related to the preparation of village development plans. Based on the data, 31% of respondents considered that community involvement in village deliberations was effective, while 28% considered it very effective. Meanwhile, 21% of respondents stated that community involvement was less effective, and 20% considered it very ineffective. Overall, 59% of respondents considered that community involvement in village deliberations was going well and effectively. However, there were still 41% of respondents who felt that community participation in this process was not optimal. This shows that although the majority of the community considers their involvement in village deliberations important, improvements are still needed in the implementation mechanisms so that broader and more active participation can be realized.

The level of effectiveness of the planning indicators in this study was calculated using the formula: the number of respondents multiplied by the number of statement items and the maximum score for each statement item. Based on the available data, the number of respondents was 95 people, the number of statement items was 7, and the maximum score for each item was 4, so that the total maximum value was obtained ($\sum X_{max}$) of 2,660. Furthermore, to find out the percentage of effectiveness, the formula is used $E = \left(\frac{\sum x}{\sum X_{max}} \right) \times 100$, where $\sum x$ is the total number of scores obtained from the questionnaire results, which is 2,149. The calculation results show that the effectiveness

value is $\left(\frac{2.149}{2.660}\right) \times 100 = 80,78\%$. Based on the criteria in the effectiveness table, the value is in the range of 64%–81% which is included in the effective category.

3.2.2 Implementation

Another important factor in supporting the Effectiveness of village fund utilization is the implementation of development programs [22]. After planning is well prepared, the implementation stage becomes the key to success. The designed program will not provide maximum results if it is not implemented seriously and in accordance with the needs of the community. In implementing this program, community support and involvement are greatly needed. The community is not only a beneficiary, but can also play an active role, for example in the form of mutual cooperation, supervision, or being part of the activity implementer. With cooperation between the village government and the community, village development can run more smoothly, transparently, and the results are more felt by all parties. The following are community opinions regarding the utilization of rural communities in development activities.

Table 3. Results of Implementation Aspect Assessment

Rated aspect	Very Effective (f, %)	Effective (f, %)	Not Effective (f, %)	Very Ineffective (f, %)
Use of Local Human Resources in the Development of Facilities and Infrastructure	13.14	38.40	28.29	16.17
Village Funds Used for Development of Village Facilities and Infrastructure	18.19	34.36	22.23	21.22
Village Funds Used for Community Empowerment Activities	21.22	42.44	16.17	16.17
Supporting Economic Activities by BUMDes and UMKM	22.23	35.37	17.18	21.22

Based on the data in Table 3, the effectiveness of the use of local human resources in the development of facilities and infrastructure shows that 40% of respondents considered the implementation to be effective and 14% stated it was very effective. However, there were still 29% of respondents who considered it less effective, and 17% considered it very ineffective. Overall, 54% of respondents considered the involvement of local workers to be going well, but there were still 46% who considered it not optimal. This indicates the need to increase the capacity of local workers, transparency in the recruitment process, and active community involvement in village development. Furthermore, the use of village funds for the development of public facilities and infrastructure—such as village roads, bridges, irrigation channels, clean water facilities, and multipurpose buildings—was also considered quite effective. As many as 36% of respondents considered it effective and 19% stated it was very effective, while 23% considered it less effective and 22% stated it was very ineffective. Thus, a total of 55% of respondents stated that village infrastructure development had gone well. However, there are still 45% who indicate that the implementation of development is not yet fully optimal, so that more transparent, targeted, and responsive village fund management is needed to meet community needs.

Village funds are also used to support community empowerment programs, which aim to improve the skills and independence of residents. Based on the data, 44% of respondents stated that this program has been implemented effectively, and 22% considered it very effective. Conversely, 17% of respondents considered it less effective, and 17% considered it very ineffective. Thus, as many as 66% of respondents considered

that community empowerment through village funds has been going well, although there are still 34% who stated that it needs to be improved. This shows the need for improvements in planning, supervision, and increasing community involvement in empowerment programs so that the benefits are more evenly distributed and sustainable.

In addition, the use of village funds to support economic activities through BUMDes and MSMEs was also considered quite positive. As many as 37% of respondents considered the support effective and 23% considered it very effective. However, 18% stated that the support was less effective and 22% stated that it was very ineffective. In total, 60% of respondents considered that the village government had played a role in supporting local economic growth, although the other 40% indicated the need for improved strategies such as providing access to capital, business training, and facilitating local product marketing so that the impact was more optimal. Based on these results, it can be concluded that the implementation of development and empowerment programs through village funds has been effective, because the effectiveness value of 79.78% is in the effective category according to the classification in the Effectiveness Table. However, efforts to improve the quality of implementation and community participation are still needed so that the use of village funds can have a broader and more equitable impact on the welfare of village communities.

3.2.3 Oversight and Transparency

The third factor that supports the effectiveness of village funds in economic and infrastructure development in rural areas is the monitoring and evaluation factor. This supervision factor is very important in supervising the use of village funds. Both in terms of financial supervision and in terms of the implementation of programs that have been implemented. The purpose of monitoring the use of village funds is to ensure that the village funds that have been provided are used effectively and efficiently. If the supervision and transparency of the use of village funds are not satisfactory, it is feared that village officials will be corrupt. For this reason, the role of government auditors such as BPC and BPCU, regional inspectors, communities and non-governmental organizations is very important so that there are no violations in the use of village funds. The village government has prepared a complete report on the realization of the use of village funds and in accordance with applicable provisions. This report covers all activities and expenditures that have been carried out during a certain period, making it easier to monitor the implementation of programs in the village. In addition, the report is also submitted on time according to the schedule set by the government. This timeliness shows that the village government carries out its duties in an orderly, transparent and responsible manner in managing village funds for the benefit of the community.

Table 4.
Assessment of
Supervision and
Transparency
Aspects

Rated aspect	Very Effective (f, %)	Effective (f, %)	Not Effective (f, %)	Very Ineffective (f, %)
Village Government Prepares Village Fund Realization Report on Time	11.12	40.42	21.22	23.24
Use of Village Funds Delivered Transparently	17.18	35.37	26.27	17.18
Submission of Village Finances in Village Deliberations	14.15	37.39	24.25	20.21

Rated aspect	Very Effective (f, %)	Effective (f, %)	Not Effective (f, %)	Very Ineffective (f, %)
Use of Village Funds According to Community Expectations	13.14	39.41	24.25	19.20

Table 4 presents the results of the evaluation of the effectiveness of supervision and transparency in the management of village funds, which include reporting on budget realization, openness of information to the public, and the suitability of the use of village funds with the expectations of residents. One of the main indicators assessed is the effectiveness of the village government in preparing reports on the realization of village funds according to the time specified. Based on the data, 42% of respondents stated that the reporting had been carried out effectively, while 12% considered it very effective. However, there were still 22% of respondents who considered the reporting less effective, and 24% stated it was very ineffective. Overall, 54% of respondents felt that the reporting of village fund realization had been running well, while 46% considered that there were still aspects that needed to be improved, such as data accuracy, consistency of reporting times, and delivery of information that was easily accessible to the public.

The transparency aspect in conveying the use of village funds is also an important part of good village financial management. The village government has made efforts to convey information openly regarding the allocation, implementation, and results of activities funded by village funds. This information is usually conveyed through information boards, written reports, and village deliberation forums. Based on Table 4, 37% of respondents considered that transparency in the use of village funds had been conveyed effectively, while 18% considered it very effective. However, there were still 27% of respondents who considered that transparency was less effective, and 18% stated that it was very ineffective. Thus, 55% of respondents considered that transparency in the use of village funds had been running quite well, but there were still 45% who considered that this information transparency should be improved. Improvement efforts can be made through periodic publication of financial reports, active involvement of residents in deliberation forums, and provision of information in a form that is easier for the community to understand.

Furthermore, the delivery of village finances through village deliberations is also an important means of realizing transparency and accountability [23]. In this forum, the village government conveys details of income, expenditure, and use of village funds to the community openly. Based on the data in Table 4, 39% of respondents considered that the delivery of financial information in village deliberations had been carried out effectively, and 15% considered it very effective. Meanwhile, 25% of respondents stated that the delivery was less effective, and 21% considered it very ineffective. In total, 54% of respondents stated that the delivery of village financial reports had gone well, while 46% felt that this aspect still needed to be improved. This shows the importance of improving the quality of information delivery in village deliberations, both in terms of substance, clarity, and community participation.

The last indicator included in Table 4 is the suitability of the use of village funds with community expectations. The village government is expected to use village funds appropriately for infrastructure development, community empowerment, and improving community welfare. Based on the data, as many as 41% of respondents considered that the use of village funds had been carried out effectively and 14% stated that it was very effective. However, there were still 25% of respondents who considered the implementation to be less effective, and another 20% stated that it was very ineffective.

A total of 55% of respondents felt that the use of village funds was in accordance with community expectations, while another 45% stated that the management of village funds needed to be improved. This finding shows the importance of improving aspects of planning, supervision, and community involvement, so that village funds can be utilized optimally and have a real impact. Based on these values, it can be concluded that the indicators of supervision and transparency in the management of village funds are in the effective category, because the value of 80.86% is in the effectiveness range of 64%–81%.

3.3 Discussion

3.3.1 Economic and Infrastructure Development in Pringgajurang Village

It is known that infrastructure development is a driving force in increasing national development and the driving force of economic development in a region and country. Meanwhile, economic development is the process of increasing total income and per capita income in response to population growth and accompanied by fundamental changes in the economic structure of a country, as well as in the distribution of income for the community. In accordance with the concept of Nawacita which is the current government program, the government provides village funds as a realization of the program which is designed to increase economic development and rural infrastructure. Village Funds are the State Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN) which is allocated for villages and traditional hamlets which are transferred through the Regency/City Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget to fund the implementation of government, development, and community development and empowerment. Which is regulated in Government Regulation Number 22 of 2015.

Economic development is a process of increasing per capita income of the population that takes place over a long period of time. While infrastructure is a government asset that is built as part of the service to the community. To realize this development, the government has implemented a village fund program. With the existence of village funds, it is hoped that it will be able to increase economic development and infrastructure in the village.

In this case, the researcher has conducted interviews with the head of Pringgajurang village and several residents of Pringgajurang village to find out the condition of economic development and infrastructure in Pringgajurang village. The amount of village funds received by Pringgajurang village each year. And, its impact on increasing economic development and infrastructure in Sindu Agung village. From the results of the interview conducted. the researcher with the head of Pringgajurang village, Mr. H Muhammad Zainul, he revealed that.

"The village fund budget received by Pringgajurang Village does change every year, depending on the central government's policy and the budget allocation that has been set. However, for the last year, we received funds amounting to 1,090,000,000 rupiah. These funds are used for various development and community empowerment programs, including infrastructure improvements, improving health services, and education programs. We strive to manage these funds as well as possible so that the benefits can be felt by all villagers."

The program that has been carried out by the village government in improving economic development and infrastructure development in Pringgajurang village. From the results of interviews conducted by researchers with the head of Pringgajurang village, he revealed that:

"In improving economic development, the Pringgajurang Village government has implemented various programs to improve economic development. One of them is

a program to open farm roads, assistance for chicken seeds for village communities and various types of vegetable seeds. In addition, there is also skills training for residents through PKK mothers which aims to improve skills and open up new business opportunities. In addition, we also support the development of small and medium enterprises by providing access to capital and business assistance. We have also provided health facilities and infrastructure such as integrated health posts that are targeted at pregnant women, disabled people, the elderly and toddlers, as well as the purchase of village ambulances to support the health of village communities”.

All of these programs are designed to empower communities and improve the village economy sustainably. The programs that have been carried out are right on target. From the results of interviews conducted by researchers with the head of Pringgajurang village, Mr. Haji Muhammad Zainul, he revealed that:

"Yes, the programs we have implemented are right on target. We always try to conduct periodic evaluations and monitoring to ensure that every program implemented truly answers the needs of the community. We also involve residents in the planning and implementation process, so that existing programs can be more in line with the conditions and potential of the village. With this approach, we hope to achieve optimal results and provide a real positive impact for all villagers."

In addition to the interview conducted with the village head of Pringgajurang, the researcher also interviewed several residents of Pringgajurang village about the implementation of the village fund program. Mr. Paridi revealed that

"The implementation of the village fund program here is quite good. We see a lot of infrastructure development such as roads and bridges that greatly help our daily mobility. In addition, there is also a community empowerment program that provides skills training. However, I feel that community participation in planning can be improved so that the programs implemented are more in line with our needs. Overall, this program has had a positive impact, but there is still room for improvement."

What Mrs. Rahmi revealed from the results of an interview with the researcher said that:

"I feel that this village fund program is very useful, especially in terms of improving public facilities such as road repairs and building health facilities. This makes our access to health services easier."

What Mrs. Ida revealed from the results of the interview with the researcher said that:

"One of the positive things about this program is the entrepreneurship training for village youth. This gives us the opportunity to learn and start a small business that can improve the family economy. The effectiveness of using village funds in economic and infrastructure development in Pringgajurang village."

3.3.2 Effectiveness of Village Fund Use in Economic and Infrastructure Development in Pringgajurang Village

Effectiveness is the result of another variable through the process of activities, or the result of a job that has been in accordance with what was previously planned. In this case, to see the effectiveness of the use of village funds, there are several indicators that must be considered including planning, implementation, supervision and transparency indicators. Then to measure the level of effectiveness of village funds can be seen in table

4 of the effectiveness criteria. Economic and infrastructure development can be said to be effective if the presentation value is more than 64%. The results of the study show that the use of village funds in economic and infrastructure development in Pringgejurang village has been effective. This can be seen from the planning indicator with a score of 80.78%, the second implementation indicator with a score of 79.78%, the third supervision and transparency indicator with a score of 80.86%. Then it can be concluded that the use of village funds in economic and infrastructure development in Pringgejurang village has been effective because the presentation value is more than 64%.

Based on the results of the study in Pringgajurang Village, the use of village funds in supporting economic and infrastructure development is considered effective. This is reflected in three main indicators, namely: the planning indicator which obtained a score of 80.78%, the implementation indicator of 79.78%, and the supervision and transparency indicator of 80.86%. All of these values are above the minimum effectiveness limit determined, which is 64%, so it can be concluded that the use of village funds in Pringgajurang Village has been running according to the objectives, both in planning, implementation, and reporting and supervision.

These results are in line with research conducted by Najiyati et al. [24] in Sleman Regency, which found that the effectiveness of village fund use is influenced by participatory planning, implementation of community-based programs, and transparency of budget reporting. The study shows that when these three aspects run well, village development programs can run more optimally and are able to improve community welfare. In addition, research by Anggriawan et al. [25], in Central Java Province also strengthens this finding, which reveals that the effectiveness of village fund use is highly dependent on synergy between village officials, community participation, and supervision from village institutions such as the BPD and civil society.

4. Conclusion

Based on the research results that have been described in Chapter IV, it can be concluded that economic and infrastructure development in Pringgajurang Village has shown quite significant development, especially in the agricultural sector. Economic development has also been carried out quite well, although in its implementation there are still obstacles, such as the low level of community participation in the management of Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes). Overall, the effectiveness of the use of village funds in supporting development in this village is relatively good. This is reflected in the values of the three main indicators, namely: planning with a score of 80.78%, implementation with a score of 79.78%, and supervision and transparency with a score of 80.86%. These three indicators show that the development program funded through village funds has been running effectively, although there is still room for improvement, especially in terms of community participation and BUMDes management. This study provides several implications that can be utilized by various parties. For the people of Pringgajurang Village, the results of this study are expected to provide a clearer picture of the effectiveness of village fund policies in economic and infrastructure development.

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6. Declaration

Author contributions and responsibilities - The authors made substantial contributions to the conception and design of the study. The authors were responsible for the data

analysis, interpretation, and discussion of the results. The authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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7. How to Quote

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