



## Community Response to the Implementation of Development in Gunung Gede Village, Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency in 2024

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### Abstract

This study aims to analyze community responses to the implementation of development programs in Gunung Gede Village, Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency, in 2024, and to identify the factors influencing their success. The research employed a qualitative descriptive approach with key person selection techniques. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation, and validated using triangulation methods. Data analysis involved data reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing or verification. The findings indicate that the implementation of village development in Gunung Gede has been optimal. The community responded positively, as the programs were well executed, encountered no significant obstacles, and met the residents' needs. The success of the implementation was influenced by clear objectives, professional attitudes of implementers, strong commitment, effective communication, and community support. These results highlight the importance of collaboration between village authorities and local residents in achieving participatory and sustainable development.

**Keywords:** *community response, development implementation, community participation, Gunung Gede Village*

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### I. Introduction

Policy implementation is an important stage in the public policy process that determines the success of achieving the goals of a policy. A public policy will be meaningless if it is not implemented effectively. Van Meter and Van Horn explained that implementation includes actions taken by individuals, officials, or groups, both government and private, that are directed at achieving the goals set in policy decisions. Thus, the success of public policies can be seen from the extent to which the policy is implemented in a real way and has an impact on society.

In the context of village government, development has a strategic role because most of Indonesia's population lives in rural areas. Law Number 3 of 2024 concerning the second amendment to Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages emphasizes that a village is a unit of legal society that has the authority to regulate and manage its own interests. This marks a shift in the development paradigm that places villages as the main subject in the implementation of national development.

Village development aims to improve the quality of life of the community and realize prosperity through the provision of facilities and infrastructure, the development of local economic potential, and community capacity building. The government provides support through the village autonomy policy and the distribution of village funds (DD) which is the main source of development financing at the village level. Through this policy, villages are expected to be able to manage resources independently and participatively to encourage sustainable development.

The implementation of village development is also in line with the sixth Nawacita, namely "Building from the village and from below for economic equity and poverty eradication." The goals of village development as stipulated in Law Number 3 of 2024 include improving the welfare of village communities, human quality of life, and poverty alleviation through the fulfillment of basic needs, the development of facilities and infrastructure, the development of local economic potential, and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Gunung Gede Village in Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency, is one of the villages that will participate in implementing village autonomy-based development in 2024. The construction carried out includes physical and

non-physical activities. Physical development includes the construction of concrete rebates in Cigitung Village, farming roads in several villages, and cliff supports in Bangkonol Village. Meanwhile, non-physical development is focused on increasing the capacity of the Village Consultative Body (BPD), Posyandu cadres, and Youth Organizations. All of these activities are funded from the Village Fund of IDR 649,979,700,000, with an allocation for physical development of IDR 649,945,700,000 and non-physical development of IDR 34,000,000.

However, the implementation of non-physical development is considered less than optimal. The community considers that capacity building activities do not have a real impact on improving the capabilities of BPD, Posyandu cadres, and Youth Organizations. These activities are even considered to be only formalities and tend to spend the budget without clear results. This phenomenon shows that there is a difference between the expectations and reality of program implementation, especially in the aspect of community empowerment.

Based on these conditions, it is important to conduct research to analyze the community's response to the implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village. This study also seeks to identify factors that affect the effectiveness of the implementation of village development policies. Through this study, it is hoped that a deeper understanding will be obtained of how the community responds to the implementation of development, the extent to which the implementation achieves policy goals, and what aspects need to be improved so that village development can run more optimally and sustainably.

## **Literature Review**

### **The Concept of Community Response**

A response is a person's reaction or response to a certain stimulus, message, or action. According to Philip Kotler in Onong Uchjana (2019), a response is a set of reactions from the communicator after receiving a message in the communication process. Responses can appear immediately or delayed, depending on the level of understanding, relevance of the message, and the social conditions of the recipient.

In the context of village development, community responses describe the extent to which villagers understand, assess, and react to development policies or programs implemented by the village government. The response can be in the form of support, active participation, criticism, or rejection of the program being run. A positive response arises when the community feels the real benefits of development activities, while a negative response occurs when the policy is considered not in accordance with the needs of the community or is not implemented transparently.

Therefore, it is important to measure community response to evaluate the effectiveness of development policy implementation. A good response indicates effective communication and participation between the village government and the community, while a weak or negative response can be an indicator of the need for improvement in the implementation mechanism and supervision of public policies at the village level.

### **Community as a Subject of Development**

Society is a social entity that has a system of values, norms, and interactions that form the order of life together. Selo Soemardjan in Soerjono Soekanto (2017) defines society as a group of people who live together and produce culture. Marion Levy in Sunarto (2009) added that a group can be called a community if it has a system of collective action, is self-sufficient, and is able to maintain its existence across generations.

In village development, the community not only plays a role as an object of development, but also as a subject who actively participates in every stage of development. This is in line with the mandate of Law Number 3 of 2024 concerning Villages, which emphasizes the importance of community participation in planning, implementation, and evaluation of development. Community participation is a key factor in creating effective and sustainable development, because through direct involvement, development programs will be more in line with local needs and have a higher success rate.

Thus, the success of village development is highly dependent on how much the community plays an active role. Without the support and involvement of citizens, development programs have the potential to fail due to a lack of ownership and responsibility for the results achieved. Therefore, the concept of people-centered development is a relevant approach in strengthening development at the village level.

## **Implementation of Village Development Policy**

Policy implementation is the stage of implementation of political decisions that have been formulated. Van Meter and Van Horn (in Winarno, 2014) explain that implementation is a series of actions taken by individuals or groups to achieve policy goals. The success of policy implementation is influenced by a number of factors that interact with each other, including communication, resources, implementing attitudes, bureaucratic structure, and social and political conditions in the implementation environment.

The Van Meter and Van Horn implementation models highlight six key variables that affect the effectiveness of policy implementation, namely:

1. Policy Size and Objectives – Policies should have clear and realistic measures of success.
2. Resources – Includes sufficient human, financial, and time resources to support policy implementation.
3. Characteristics of Implementers – Professionalism and competence of implementers greatly determine the success of implementation.
4. Attitude or Tendency of Implementers – The attitude of acceptance or rejection of policy implementers affects the effectiveness of implementation.
5. Inter-Organizational Communication – Good coordination and communication between implementing agencies is necessary to avoid policy overlap.
6. Social, Economic, and Political Conditions – Social and political stability is a prerequisite for the smooth implementation of public policies.

In the context of village development, these six factors are the main indicators to assess the extent to which policy implementation, especially the use of village funds, is effective and has a positive impact on the community.

## **Concept and Objectives of Village Development**

Village development is a process of social and economic change that is planned to improve the quality of life of the community. Fry (2024) explained that village development includes activities to develop local economic potential, increase community capacity, and equitable distribution of welfare through sustainable management of village resources.

Law Number 3 of 2024 emphasizes that village development aims to improve the welfare of village communities through the fulfillment of basic needs, the development of facilities and infrastructure, the development of local economic potential, and the sustainable management of natural resources. In addition, village development is directed to strengthen village governance, accelerate public services, and increase village competitiveness.

The main principles of village development are participation, transparency, and accountability. Community-oriented development encourages collaboration between village governments and residents to formulate and implement programs that are relevant to local needs. Thus, development not only produces physical output, but also empowers the community to be more independent and prosperous.

## **Theoretical Framework of Thought**

Based on the implementation theory of Van Meter and Van Horn, this study views that the community's response to village development is greatly influenced by the effectiveness of policy implementation. Clarity of objectives, professionalism of implementers, communication between institutions, and community support are key factors that determine the success of development implementation at the village level.

This framework of thought is the basis for analysis to understand the relationship between development policies implemented by village governments and community reactions and assessments of their implementation. Thus, this research is expected to contribute to strengthening the effectiveness of village development policy implementation and increasing community participation as the main actor in sustainable development.

## II. Research Methods

### Approaches and Types of Research

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach. This approach was chosen because the research focuses on efforts to understand social phenomena in depth based on the views and experiences of informants. According to Sugiyono (2023), qualitative research is natural (natural setting) and aims to obtain meaning from social phenomena that occur in the field. The descriptive approach is used to provide a systematic, factual, and accurate picture of the facts, nature, and relationships between the phenomena being studied.

This approach is considered relevant because the research aims to analyze the community's response to the implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village, Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency. Through this method, researchers can reveal people's perceptions, attitudes, and experiences related to the implementation of development, both physical and non-physical.

### Research Location and Time

The research was carried out in Gunung Gede Village, Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency, Banten Province. This village was chosen as the research location because it has unique geographical and social characteristics, namely it is a village with a mountainous area and is one of the farthest villages from the center of the sub-district government. Village development in 2024 in this region shows an interesting dynamic between government programs and community participation, making it a relevant object to be studied.

The research period lasts for a period of the 2024–2025 academic year, starting from the planning stage to the preparation of research report results. These stages include field data collection, interviews with informants, observation of development activities, and data analysis.

### Data Sources and Types

The data in this study consists of two types, namely primary data and secondary data.

- Primary data was obtained directly from the main sources in the field through in-depth interviews and observations of development activities and community interaction in Gunung Gede Village.
- Secondary data was obtained from supporting documents such as laws and regulations, village reports, scientific literature, previous research results, and village administrative data relevant to the research topic.

The combination of primary and secondary data is used to strengthen the validity of the findings and provide a comprehensive picture of the implementation of development at the village level.

### Informant Determination Techniques

The selection of informants is carried out by *purposive sampling* with the *key person technique*, namely the selection of subjects who are considered the most knowledgeable, understanding, and directly involved in the implementation of village development. According to Arikunto (2015), this technique is used so that the information obtained is relevant and in-depth.

The informants in this study were 12 people, consisting of:

- Head of Gunung Gede Village
- Head of Economic and Development Affairs (Kaur Ekbang)
- Chairman of the Village Consultative Body (BPD)
- Three community leaders
- Six villagers with different social backgrounds

The selection of the composition of the informants aims to obtain diverse perspectives on the implementation of village development from the side of the government, village institutions, and the general public.

### **Data Collection Techniques**

Data collection is carried out through several main methods, namely:

- **In-depth Interview:** Interviews are conducted directly to informants using semi-structured interview guidelines. The guidelines contain open-ended questions that allow informants to explain their views freely while still focusing on research topics, such as perceptions of development implementation, obstacles faced, and factors affecting its effectiveness.
- **Field Observation:** Observations are carried out to directly observe the implementation of physical and non-physical development in Gunung Gede Village, including the interaction between the village government and the community during the program implementation process.
- **Documentation:** Documentation is carried out by collecting various related documents, such as development activity reports, photos of activities, minutes of village deliberation meetings, and financial data from the use of village funds in 2024.

All three techniques are used simultaneously to obtain valid, complete, and in-depth data.

### **Data Validity Techniques**

The validity of the data in this study was tested using triangulation techniques which include source triangulation, technique triangulation, and time triangulation (Sugiyono, 2023).

- Source triangulation is carried out by comparing data from various informants, such as village officials, community leaders, and residents.
- The triangulation technique was carried out by checking the suitability of the data from interviews, observations, and documentation.
- Time triangulation is done by collecting data at different times to ensure the consistency of information.

The application of triangulation aims to increase the credibility and reliability of the research results, so that the data obtained truly describes the field conditions objectively.

### **Data Analysis Techniques**

Data analysis was carried out interactively based on the Miles and Huberman model (Sugiyono, 2023), which included three main stages:

- **Data Reduction**, which is the process of selecting, focusing, and simplifying field data to suit the focus of research.
- **Data Display**, which is organizing data in the form of narrative descriptions, tables, or matrices so that the relationships between variables can be clearly seen.
- **Conclusion Drawing and Verification**, which is the process of finding patterns, relationships, and meanings from the data that has been presented to answer research questions.

All stages of analysis are carried out repeatedly from the beginning of data collection to the writing of the final report. This process allows researchers to identify key themes, interpret the meaning of the data, and draw accurate conclusions about the community's response to the implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village.

## **III. Results and Discussion**

### **Overview of Research Objects**

Gunung Gede Village is one of the villages in Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency, Banten Province, with an area of about 2,588 hectares. Geographically, this village is located in a mountainous area with an altitude of about 600–700 meters above sea level. The distance is about 30 km from the district capital and 163 km from the district capital. The hilly and remote geographical conditions make this village face challenges in the implementation of development, especially related to accessibility and distribution of resources.

The population of Gunung Gede Village in 2024 will reach 3,397 people, consisting of 1,745 males and 1,652 females. Most of the population works in the agricultural and farm labor sectors, while a small percentage work as small entrepreneurs, drivers, and village shamans. With the socio-economic conditions still simple, village development is very important to improve the welfare of the community.

#### **Implementation of Village Development in 2024**

The implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village in 2024 includes physical and non-physical activities. Physical development includes concrete rebates in Cigintung Village, construction of farming roads in Cikasan, Hurugading, and Gunung Gede Villages, and the construction of cliff supports in Bangkonol Village. Meanwhile, non-physical activities include capacity building of the Village Consultative Body (BPD), Posyandu cadres, and Youth Organizations.

The development is funded from the Village Fund (DD) of IDR 649,979,700,000, with an allocation for physical development of IDR 649,945,700,000 and for community empowerment of IDR 34,000,000. In general, physical development activities are carried out well, according to the work plan and budget that has been agreed. However, non-physical development has received a mixed response from the community because it is considered to have not given significant results to increase the capacity and welfare of residents.

#### **Community Response to Development Implementation**

Based on the results of interviews and observations, the people of Gunung Gede Village gave a positive response to the physical development that had been carried out. They assessed that infrastructure programs such as concrete rebates and farmer roads have a real impact on increasing access to transportation and economic activities of the community. Better infrastructure facilitates the distribution of agricultural products and opens up new business opportunities for villagers.

However, the community's response to non-physical development such as training and capacity building of community institutions is still relatively low. Some residents consider that the training activities do not provide direct benefits and seem to be only a formality. Some informants even mentioned that the implementation of the empowerment program was not accompanied by clear follow-up, so the results were not sustainable. This shows that there is a gap between policy objectives and public perception of the benefits of the program.

#### **Analysis Based on Van Meter and Van Horn Models**

This study uses the Van Meter and Van Horn policy implementation model as an analytical framework. Based on the six main variables in the model, the results of the study can be described as follows:

##### **a. Policy Size and Objectives**

The goals and measures of success of the development program in Gunung Gede Village have been clearly formulated. In each physical project, there is an information board that contains the implementation time, implementation of activities, and sources of funds, so that the community can monitor the transparency and accountability of the program. This shows that the aspects of formulation and clarity of policy objectives are good and understood by implementers and the public.

##### **b. Resources**

The implementation of village development is supported by competent human resources, both from the village government, BPD, and village assistants. Financial resources are also adequate with appropriate budget allocation. In addition, the implementation time of one budget year is considered sufficient to complete the development program. This resource factor is one of the keys to the successful implementation of physical development in Gunung Gede Village.

##### **c. Characteristics of the Implementer**

The implementers of village development show a professional attitude and have a commitment to their duties. The working relationship between the village government, BPD, and the community runs harmoniously. The bureaucratic structure at the village level is quite effective in supporting the smooth implementation of activities.

#### **d. Attitudes and Tendencies of Implementers**

The attitude of implementers towards development programs tends to be positive. No form of rejection or resistance to the policy was found. The executors show loyalty and responsibility in carrying out their duties.

#### **e. Interorganizational Communication**

Coordination between the village government, BPD, village institutions, and technical assistants runs effectively through village deliberation mechanisms, coordination meetings, and periodic reporting. This good communication contributes to the smooth implementation of development, especially in solving problems in the field.

#### **f. Social, Economic, and Political Conditions**

Social, economic, and political conditions in Gunung Gede Village are relatively stable. There were no significant social or political conflicts during the implementation of the development program. Community support for village government policies is also quite high, thus creating a conducive environment for the implementation of development policies.

#### **Factors Affecting Successful Implementation**

Based on the results of the analysis above, there are several factors that affect the success of development implementation in Gunung Gede Village, including:

- Clarity of program goals and objectives, which makes it easier for implementers to carry out activities according to the plan.
- Availability of human and financial resources, which ensures the program can run without technical barriers.
- Professionalism and loyalty of the implementers, which support the effectiveness of the implementation of activities.
- Effective communication and coordination between agencies, which reduces the potential for miscommunication between implementers.
- Conducive social and political conditions, which strengthen community participation and encourage development success.

However, this study also found that non-physical activities still need to be improved, especially in the aspects of follow-up training results and community empowerment. Village governments need to ensure that capacity building activities provide real benefits, not just administrative formalities.

#### **Discussion**

The results of this study are in line with the policy implementation theory of Van Meter and Van Horn which emphasizes the importance of clarity of objectives, availability of resources, and effective communication in the successful implementation of policies. The implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village shows that these aspects are doing well in physical activities, but still weak in community empowerment activities.

This condition also supports the findings of previous research by Fry (2024) and Wulandari (2022) which stated that the implementation of village development is often more focused on physical development than non-physical aspects of empowerment. Therefore, efforts to increase community capacity need to be designed in a more participatory, results-oriented, and sustainable manner so that the community's response to village development is more positive.

### **IV. Conclusions and Suggestions**

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the results of the research on the community's response to the implementation of development in Gunung Gede Village, Panggarangan District, Lebak Regency in 2024, it can be concluded that in general village development has run well and optimally, especially in physical development activities. Infrastructure programs

such as the construction of concrete rebates, farming roads, and cliff supports have a real impact on increasing accessibility, community economic activities, and the quality of the residential environment.

The community responded positively to the implementation of physical development because the benefits were felt directly. They assessed that the village government had carried out the program transparently, on target, and in accordance with the needs of the community. Factors that support the successful implementation of development policies in Gunung Gede Village include: clarity of program objectives, professionalism of implementers, good communication between the village government and the community, adequate resource support, and relatively stable socio-political conditions of the village.

However, the implementation of non-physical development such as capacity building activities for BPD, Posyandu cadres, and Youth Organizations has not shown optimal results. These activities are considered to have not had a direct impact on improving competence and community empowerment. The lack of post-training follow-up and lack of evaluation make the activity tend to be formal. Therefore, non-physical development requires improvements so that the benefits can be felt by the community.

Overall, this study confirms that the success of the implementation of village development is not only determined by technical and administrative factors, but also by the level of participation, communication, and community involvement in each stage of development.

### **Suggestions**

Based on the above conclusion, some suggestions that can be given include:

1. The Gunung Gede Village Government needs to strengthen non-physical development activities by focusing on capacity building and community empowerment through training programs that are oriented to the real needs of residents and have measurable follow-up.
2. Periodic evaluation of the results of development activities needs to be carried out in a participatory manner to ensure that each program truly provides direct benefits to the community.
3. Community participation must continue to be increased through deliberation mechanisms and information transparency, so that residents have a sense of ownership of the results of development.
4. Village assistants and related institutions are expected to be more active in providing supervision, assistance, and technical training to ensure the sustainability of development results, both physical and non-physical.

With the implementation of these recommendations, development in Gunung Gede Village is expected to be more effective, participatory, and sustainable, and able to improve the welfare of the village community as a whole.

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