

The Government's Role in Improving Education Through Cooperation Programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to analyze the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area. This research uses a qualitative approach. The population in this study were 45 students who received cooperation programs, and the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Education Service, as well as the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Regional Secretariat. In this research, the sampling technique used was random sampling method. The sample taken based on random sampling method was 5 students who received scholarships from the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government collaboration program. Data analysis activities are carried out during research activities (during data collection), and the most important activities include data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. The research results show that the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government functions as a provider of support and convenience for regional officials to access scholarship programs. The driving factor for the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area is commitment and budget support. The inhibiting factor for the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area is the lack of information and counseling as well as bureaucracy and administrative obstacles.

Keywords: Government's Role, Improving Education, Cooperation Programs

INTRODUCTION

Policy implementation is one of the important stages in the government policy cycle. Implementation is often considered to be just the implementation of what has been decided by the legislature or decision-makers as if this stage has little influence. However, in reality, the implementation stage is very important because a government policy will be meaningless if it cannot be implemented well, correctly, and on target. In other words, implementation is the stage where a government policy is implemented optimally and can achieve the policy objectives themselves. Implementation of government policies is a very important part of the policy process itself because it has an impact on its citizens.

One of the main pillars supporting the achievement of the vision is developing people and mastering science and technology. In more detail, this pillar aims to achieve an improvement in the quality of Indonesian people with increasingly higher and more equitable education; strong culture; improving health status, life expectancy and quality of life; high productivity; as well as the ability to master broad science and technology.

Government policy in improving the quality of human resources is through improving

the quality of education. In line with changes in the educational environment and the current business world, professionalism is needed in all fields, including the world of education. National development in the field of education is an effort to make the nation smarter and improve the quality of Indonesian people in realizing an advanced, just and prosperous society. Furthermore, the National Education System Law Number 20 of 2003 states that every citizen has the same right to obtain quality education. In developing a region as a national development strategy, there are three pillars that have a close relationship and must interact with each other, namely natural resources, human resources and technology. A region that has rich enough natural resources and human resources that are able to utilize and develop technology will develop faster than other regions.

Therefore, the implementation of public policy is very important because the decline and success of a nation is determined by the greatness of its public policy, not its natural resources or politics, so it can be seen how important it is to understand and research the implementation of public policy in depth. In line with the above, the government has the authority to make policies in the education sector. In Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system, the definition of education is stated: education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential so that they have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals, and skills needed by himself, society, nation, and state (Ramadhan and Megawati, 2022).

Education in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area is carried out following the national education system established by the Ministry of Education and is applied equally to all regions in the country. There are not many differences between the implementation of education in Kukar and the implementation of education in other

regions in Indonesia, except for matters related to adaptation to matters of local wisdom, such as the introduction of regional languages, introduction to the regional environment, and other matters of a regional nature (Hasibuan, 2021). The problem of education in Kukar is also almost the same as the problem of education in other areas, including building problems, the problem of additional obligations for students to buy various kinds of uniforms, which are sometimes provided by the school and must be paid for by the students, problems with the income of teaching staff in some remote areas which are considered inadequate, inadequate educational facilities, inadequate buildings, relatively far distances between schools and students and inadequate transportation facilities, funding for education provision which is often late in being realized by regional, provincial or central governments, are classic problems which hinders the educational process.

Education is the most important element in improving and improving the quality of life in society and is the main key to improving the quality of human resources, so education must be of high quality. Quality of education is a condition where all educational systems are pursued and directed effectively in order to increase the value of educational input factors to produce maximum output results (Safitri et al., 2022). In order for education to be of high quality and have an impact on regional development, it is necessary to carry out educational planning that involves multidisciplinary activities that pay attention to issues of demographics, economics, finance, government, pedagogy, school statistics, the environment, social culture, and other aspects that directly or indirectly can influence educational planning. This means that educational planning is carried out comprehensively by considering various aspects so that education can function well to produce quality human resources as a whole. Comprehensive in the sense that all citizens have the opportunity to learn so that each of them has the ability to support the

development of a region or country. Therefore, a region's development process is largely determined by the availability of quality human resources. In other words, quality human resources are a factor that determines whether a region will progress or not. This can be interpreted through a policy by the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government to provide a policy of domestic cooperation through the development of human resources in the field of education.

The purpose of this research is to analyze the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach, research that aims to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects, for example, behavior, perceptions, motivations, and actions. In this research, the author will use a descriptive design, namely as a systematic way of highlighting facts or characteristics of the population. Suyitno (2018) stated that qualitative research means research that comes from inductive thinking, in accordance with objective participatory observation regarding a social phenomenon or reality. The social phenomena in question include past, present, and future conditions. This observation refers to certain individuals or social groups who are guided by certain goals or objects of certain problems.

The population in this study were 45 students who received cooperation programs, and the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Education Service, as well as the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Regional Secretariat. In this research, the sampling technique used was random sampling method. Random sampling method is a technique for sampling data sources with certain considerations. The consideration of random sampling method used is not to focus on differences which will later be developed into generalizations. But the aim is to look for specificities that exist in unique context ingredients

(Moleong, 2014). The sample taken based on random sampling method was 5 students who received scholarships from the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government collaboration program. Meanwhile, the supporting informants are the Education Service and the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Regional Secretariat of the key informant. The key informants were selected based on their ease of communication and can be trusted to provide more accurate information to support this research, while the selection of supporting informants was based on how close the supporting informants' efforts were to the key informants' efforts.

Data analysis activities are carried out during research activities (during data collection), and the most important activities include data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. The meaning of each of these methods includes:

1. Data Reduction

Data reduction is one of the qualitative data analysis techniques. Data reduction is a form of analysis that sharpens, categorizes, directs, removes what is not necessary and organizes data in such a way that final conclusions can be drawn.

2. Data Display

Data presentation is one of the qualitative data analysis techniques. Data presentation is an activity when a collection of information is compiled, so as to provide the possibility of drawing conclusions. The form of presenting qualitative data is in the form of narrative text (in the form of field notes), matrices, graphics, networks and charts.

3. Conclusion Drawing or Verification

Drawing conclusions is one of the qualitative data analysis techniques. Drawing conclusions is the result of analysis that can be used to take action.

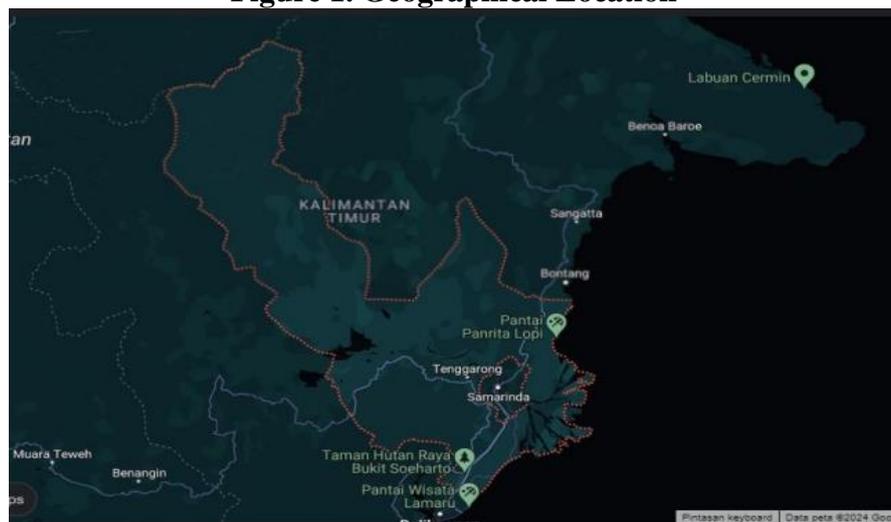
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

General Description

The general description of the research object here is a description that explains the existence of situations and conditions or

circumstances of the object that are closely related to the research.

Figure 1. Geographical Location



Source: Goggle Maps (2023)

The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area has an area of 23,263.10 square kilometers and a water area of approximately 4,097 square kilometers geographically located between 115 26 28 East Longitude – 117 36 43 East Longitude and 1 28 21 North Latitude – 1 08 06 South Latitude. Tabang District is the largest sub-district with an area of 7764.10 km², while Sanga - Sanga District with an area of 233.40 km² is the sub-district with the smallest area. With 18 sub-districts in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area, it is possible that the average area of each sub-district is 1514,95.82 km². The distance between the capital city and the sub-districts is quite far, which is an inhibiting factor for implementing development, even though there are also several sub-districts which are also close to each other.

The Government's Role in Improving Education Through Cooperation Programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area

The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government functions as a provider of support and convenience for regional officials to access scholarship programs. Scholarship programs provide individuals with the opportunity to gain access to quality education, including access to various top universities at home and abroad,

which may not be financially affordable for effective learning (Pandiangan et al., 2023). The regional government is committed to creating a conducive environment and ensuring that the necessary resources are available for regional officials to be able to participate in the scholarship program smoothly. They provide complete information about the requirements, application process, and benefits of the scholarship program so that local officials can easily take advantage of this opportunity. As a facilitator, the role of local government in the scholarship program is key in ensuring success and maximum benefits for regional officials. The commitment to providing support and convenience reflects an inclusive attitude and concern for better human resource development (Alimuddin et al., 2023).

So that the concept of cooperative scholarships is not only implemented but must be stipulated in a policy that has the force of law, at least included in regional head regulations, included in changes to the Regional Regulation regarding the ideal kukar scholarship, so that its implementation does not become an obstacle even if there is a change in leadership. With the concept of this collaborative scholarship, can help fulfill

technical human resources in regional apparatus because technical human resources in the field of psychology are really needed with the trend of violence against women and children continuing to rise. The existence of a collaborative scholarship between the regional government and the Indonesian Islamic University of Yogyakarta will really help us to provide psychological and technical human resources, and we are also committed to utilizing human resources resulting from this collaborative scholarship, by conducting open recruitment and this commitment is stated in the letter commitment of the head, and cooperation scholarship between the Regional Government and Telkom University Bandung, regarding servers and system security for applications created by reformers, and hope that technical human resources resulting from the cooperation scholarship can be completed on time, so that it can help work at Diskominfo for assisting in the implementation of the SPBE and DISAPA programs requires technical human resources in the field of Informatics. Providing opportunities or opportunities for residents of the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area to receive assistance in the form of scholarships for pupils and students which will have an impact on improving education in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area.

The regional policy of the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area by providing cooperative scholarship programs in the era of regional autonomy greatly determines the quality of education. According to the legal dictionary and regional autonomy glossary, policy is a statement of principles as a regulatory basis for achieving a target. Regional policies are rules, directions, references, provisions and guidelines in the administration of regional government which are outlined in regional regulations, decisions of regional heads and decisions of the regional people's representative council as well as decisions of the leadership of the regional people's representative council. If the regional government has allocated 20%

of the regional income and expenditure budget for education and managed it effectively and efficiently, then what is the duty and authority of the regional government to provide assistance with the costs of providing early childhood education, primary education, and secondary education will be realized. This will also have an impact on ensuring the quality of education units which aim to meet or exceed national education standards (Ratnawita et al., 2023).

The Driving Factor for the Government's Role in Improving Education Through Cooperation Programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area

The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government provides opportunities or opportunities for the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area residents to obtain assistance in the form of scholarships for pupils and students which will have an impact on improving education and the quality of human resources. The government has played its role in improving education and human resources by organizing cooperative scholarship programs. However, in its implementation, there are several supporting factors. Supporting factors are factors or elements that contribute positively and support the success of scholarship programs in improving education. Based on the description of the research results above, several factors supporting the government's role in improving education were found.

1. Commitment

The government's strong commitment to the cooperative scholarship program is a solid foundation in achieving the success of this program. When the government has high awareness and determination to improve the quality of education and human resources through scholarships, this will be reflected in their efforts and dedication to implementing this program seriously and effectively. The strong commitment of the local government means that the scholarship program is considered one of the main

priorities in efforts to improve the quality of human resources through the education sector in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area to support this scholarship program, even if the budget is limited. Awareness of the importance of developing human resources through education is a motivation for the government to invest in scholarship programs as a means of achieving sustainable regional development.

2. Budget Support

Budget support through adequate budget allocation for the scholarship program will ensure that sufficient resources are available to implement the program well. Budget support can also provide more opportunities for young people in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area to take part in scholarships. Adequate budget allocation is one of the crucial factors in running a scholarship program successfully. The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government providing an adequate budget for this program will ensure the availability of the resources needed to implement the program well and sustainably. With an adequate budget, the scholarship program can cover more so that the opportunity to take part in the scholarship can be given to more individuals who meet the selection criteria (Tambunan et al., 2024). This will increase overall participation and acceptance of the program.

The Inhibiting Factor for the Government's Role in Improving Education Through Cooperation Programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area

With these supporting factors, the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government's collaborative scholarship program is able to provide a positive impact. These factors become a strong foundation for achieving development goals in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area that are more advanced and sustainable. However, as a complex program, several inhibiting factors also influence the successful implementation of the cooperative scholarship program.

1. The Lack of Information and Counseling

If the public does not receive adequate information about the scholarship program or how to access it, then public participation in this program could be low. Lack of adequate information about scholarship programs or how to access them can be a major barrier to community participation in these programs (Pandiangan et al., 2023). When people do not have sufficient access to relevant information, they may not be aware of or understand the opportunities that exist to participate in scholarship programs. The impact is that community participation in this program can be low so that the potential and talents of individuals who should have the opportunity to develop themselves through scholarships can be neglected.

2. Bureaucracy and Administrative Obstacles

Bureaucracy and administrative obstacles can be one of the main obstacles in implementing scholarship programs smoothly and efficiently. Administrative problems that are not resolved properly can cause delays, confusion, and even discrepancies in program implementation, which in the end can hinder the achievement of scholarship program goals (Pandiangan et al., 2023). One of the administrative obstacles that is often faced is the registration process and document collection. If this process is not well organized, prospective scholarship recipients may have difficulty accessing information about the requirements and steps to follow to apply. The lack of clarity in the registration process and complicated requirements can make it difficult for prospective scholarship recipients to fulfill them on time.

In dealing with these inhibiting factors, regional governments need to make efforts to identify appropriate solutions and strategies. Efforts to increase budget allocations, increase outreach and access to information, and strengthen program monitoring and evaluation can help

overcome these obstacles. The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government can also involve active community participation to support and make the scholarship program a success so that this program can play a more effective role in improving education so as to create quality human resources and development in the Kutai Kartanegara Area as a whole.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The research results show that the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government functions as a provider of support and convenience for regional officials to access scholarship programs. The driving factor for the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area is commitment and budget support. The inhibiting factor for the government's role in improving education through cooperation programs in the Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area is the lack of information and counseling as well as bureaucracy and administrative obstacles.

The suggestions that can be given in this research are as follows:

1. The Kutai Kartanegara Regency Area Government needs to make efforts to increase access to information and education for the public so that information is easily accessible and able to absorb a lot of human resources. Transparency and accountability, transparency in the selection process for scholarship recipients. If the selection process and use of funds are carried out honestly and fairly, then this program will be more successful. Transparency in the scholarship recipient selection process and accountability in the use of scholarship funds are critical elements that will build public trust in this program.
2. The government must carry out strict supervision in the use of scholarship funds and prepare transparent financial reports on a regular basis. Clear and open financial reports will provide information to the public about how scholarship funds are used and whether they are used in accordance with the stated objectives. The government must also ensure that scholarship funds are used for things that are relevant and beneficial to scholarship recipients. Proper use of funds will provide greater benefits for the development of human resources for regional officials.
3. Regional governments can also involve active community participation to support and make the scholarship program a success, so that this program can play a more effective role in improving human resources and overall regional development.

Declaration by Authors

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