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COASTAL COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION  
IN EFFORTS TO CONSERVE LAKE TONDANO

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**Abstract.** *This study aims to analyze and describe Coastal Community Participation in Lake Tondano Preservation Efforts. This research uses a qualitative approach through observation, interviews, document research, primary and secondary data sources, and uses data analysis techniques. The focus of this research utilizes 5 indicators of community participation according to Huraerah. The Minahasa Regency Government seeks to involve local communities through socialization and training in order to achieve effective results in order to preserve Lake Tondano. However, the lack of coordination between the community, village government, and related authorities is still an obstacle. The community also still carries out activities that can unwittingly affect the state and environment around the lake.*

**Abstrak.** Studi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dan mendeskripsikan Partisipasi Masyarakat Pesisir Dalam Upaya Pelestarian Danau Tondano. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif melalui observasi, wawancara, penelitian dokumen, sumber data primer dan sekunder, serta menggunakan teknik analisis data. Fokus penelitian ini memanfaatkan 5 indikator partisipasi masyarakat menurut Huraerah. Pemerintah Kabupaten Minahasa berupaya melibatkan masyarakat setempat melalui sosialisasi dan pelatihan agar dapat mencapai hasil yang efektif dalam rangka melestarikan Danau Tondano. Namun, kurangnya koordinasi antara masyarakat, pemerintah desa, dan pihak berwenang terkait masih menjadi kendala, Masyarakat juga masih ada yang melakukan aktifitas yang tanpa disadari dapat mempengaruhi keadaan dan lingkungan di sekitar danau.

## INTRODUCTION

Community participation can be said to be the involvement of the general public in a better development process, where the community can play a role in a sustainable development process. Lake Tondano plays an important role in the lives of the people of North Sulawesi. This lake not only has benefits as a source for aquaculture and agriculture, but water from this lake is also used as a power plant (PLTA). Lake Tondano also has many benefits such as meeting daily water needs, irrigation facilities, helping the production process of goods, recreation and cultivation facilities and so on. Therefore, the local government is very concerned about Lake Tondano, which is considered very important in supporting the needs of the people in North Sulawesi Province, especially in Minahasa Regency.

However, the phenomenon that is occurring at this time is very unfortunate considering that Lake Tondano has been included as one of the 15 critical lakes that are a national priority to be addressed based on the National Conference on Indonesian Lakes in Denpasar, Bali in 2009, which was emphasized by Presidential Regulation No. 60/2021 on the Rescue of National Priority Lakes. This is because the siltation rate of Lake Tondano continues to increase rapidly and the lake area continues to decrease.

Tahun	Kedalaman
1934	40 m
1974	28 m
2001	20 m
2015	14 m
2023*	13,5 m

Tahun	Luas
1939	5.600 Hektar
1992	4.800 Hektar
2015	3.925 Hektar
2023*	±4000 Hektar

(sumber: Kementerian PUPR)

From the data of the Ministry of PUPR, the area and depth of Lake Tondano in recent years are very alarming, where there is a very significant downward trend. Whereas Lake Tondano is a source of livelihood that is rich in benefits for people who live on the shores of the lake. For this reason, it is important to analyze and describe the Participation of Coastal Communities in Efforts to Preserve Lake Tondano.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Community Participation

According to Huraerah (2008: 102) community participation can also be seen from the form of community participation given in real (abstract) form. The forms of community participation are as

follows:

1. Participation of ideas, which are expressed by participants in a meeting or meeting. Participation in the fruit of the mind can mean deliberation that is carried out simultaneously to unite all thoughts in one meeting to achieve the same goal.
2. Labor participation, which is given by the community or participants in an activity for the improvement or development of the village, help to others, usually in the form of money, food and so on.
3. Property participation, usually community participation in the form of property and food is always there to support activities that are being carried out by the community.
4. Participation of skills and abilities, which people provide to encourage various forms of business and industry. Most people who have skills in participation, brilliant ideas for pelelstarian in the implementation of community participation activities.
5. Social participation, which is a form or sign of cooperation or gotong royong. In this participation, it can be meant that the community originally participated in the activities that were being carried out. In addition to the interview, secondary data will be gathered through comprehensive web- based research to enhance the information obtained. Relevant online sources will be reviewed to gain insights into Forvis Mazars Group's business model, including its value proposition, customer segments, and operational strategies. These sources will be systematically analyzed to extract key themes and integrate the data collected from the interview.

### **Lake preservation**

In the activity of community participation to preserve the lake, there is certainly a function for the preservation of the lake. Preservation here can be interpreted as an effort to maintain the "existence" of a particular cultural element or system in society (Zamora 2003: 151). Zamora (2003: 151) states that the word "existence" itself can mean actively or passively.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Research Type**

The type of research used in this research is a type of qualitative research with a descriptive approach to analyze and describe the role of coastal communities towards Lake Tondano Preservation.

### **Data Types, Sources, and Collection Methods**

This research uses qualitative data types based on the analysis of descriptive findings or depictions using interview measurement instruments. This means that this research aims to analyze and describe Coastal Community Participation in Lake Tondano Preservation Efforts. In summary, because researchers want to see and explain a process using indicators not to assess the influence or relationship between indicators / variables, this research is qualitative.

The research location was carried out to the people who were and lived on the shores of Lake Tondano where previously the author had conducted an initial survey of the problems the author observed

relating to the participation of coastal communities in efforts to preserve Lake Tondano.

Data collection techniques in this study used 3 (three) methods, namely, In-depth Interview Observation, and Documentation.

## **Analysis Method and Process**

### **Analysis Method**

This research uses qualitative research methods with data reduction, data presentation, data triangulation, and drawing conclusions that in detail analyze and describe the role of coastal communities in the preservation of Lake Tondano.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Coastal Community Participation in Lake Tondano Preservation**

#### **Participation of Thoughts**

Based on the results of the interview, where the community plays a role in expressing opinions where there are several means by which the sub-district government holds a meeting with the head of the village to accommodate suggestions and input in terms of preserving Lake Tondano. There are also actions from village heads who hold deliberations with fishing communities and community organizations in the village to pay attention to the preservation of Lake Tondano. With the existence of meetings like this can provide benefits and open space for government and community thinking and accommodate community opinions in planning and re-evaluating the situation of Lake Tondano so as to produce decisions to achieve common goals.

However, it can be seen from the opinions of people who consider that meetings like this in some places are rarely held so that this can limit the space for public opinion in supporting government programs to preserve Lake Tondano.

#### **Labor Participation**

There is a sub-district where the government held a tree replanting program around Lake Tondano. The community there responded well and helped the government to succeed either by helping to plant trees directly or by providing other assistance in the form of money, food and so on. With this, it is very helpful for government programs to achieve effective results in the preservation of Lake Tondano. However, there are some places that still have little participation due to information that does not all reach all aspects of the community.

#### **Treasure Participation**

Based on interviews, some people cannot directly help the government, some of them collect funds to support activities carried out by the government, for example, such as buying food for workers who work there.

#### **Skills and Proficiency Participation**

The community in this case participates in terms of skills, one of which is that there are some people who can make water hyacinth into a good craft of hats, bags, sofas and so on. In fact there are also competitions - handicraft competitions from water hyacinth made by the government. But unfortunately this has rarely been held whereas with this activity in addition to providing rewards to

the community but also can be a program to reduce water hyacinth more.

### Social Participation

Based on interviews, it can be seen that in some coastal areas of Lake Tondano there are communities or community organizations that take the initiative to remove water hyacinth together. Some are even supported by the local government so that some have routinely scheduled water hyacinth removal. However, due to human limitations, water hyacinth removal becomes less effective. The lack of machines or tools used makes the community overwhelmed in lifting this water hyacinth.

## CONCLUSION

Coastal community participation plays an important role in supporting the conservation of Lake Tondano. Starting from participation in the form of ideas where the community provides ideas and ideas in meetings at the village level or in deliberations conducted by the local government. This is very helpful in determining the direction of policies or programs to be carried out by the government so that it can achieve good and effective goals of what will be done in the future without ignoring the interests of the community. Participation through labor is also given where the community helps the government by going directly to remove water hyacinth and replant trees. There are also people who collect assets usually in the form of money to support government programs or to buy food for workers who come directly to preserve Lake Tondano. There are also people who use their skills to use water hyacinth as a craft material so that it can be traded and there are also several community groups that work together independently to preserve Lake Tondano. But unfortunately not all people are aware and know the importance of preserving Lake Tondano so it takes cooperation from both the government and the community to provide information related to the situation of Lake Tondano which has entered 15 Critical Lakes in Indonesia. There are also people who are overwhelmed in preserving Lake Tondano so there needs to be assistance from the government to help them.

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