

## Village Community Participation in Supporting the SDGs in Lugasari Village, Pringsewu Regency

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**Saskia Susanti Haros<sup>1\*</sup>, Muhammad Irfan Affandi<sup>1</sup>, Syifa Novia Tabrani<sup>1</sup>, Dzulfiana Meitasuci<sup>1</sup>, Hidayatul Lailiah<sup>1</sup>, Renanda Andari<sup>1</sup>, Andre Vanbudi<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Universitas Lampung, Bandar Lampung, Lampung, Indonesia.

\* Email correspondence : [saskiasusantih@gmail.com](mailto:saskiasusantih@gmail.com)

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**Abstract.** The Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration issued Ministerial Regulation Number 21 of 2020 as a general guideline for village stakeholders in realizing the development and empowerment of village communities in harmony with the Village SDGs. In achieving village development planning, community participation is needed in order to achieve common goals. The purpose of this study is to find out how the community participates in the village SDGs in the development of Lugasari Village, Pringsewu Regency. This research was conducted in September 2023, using the census method with a total of 45 respondents consisting of village officials and village communities. This study uses a descriptive quantitative method by collecting data through interviews, observations, and documentation. The results of this study show that community participation is classified as quite good in terms of community knowledge regarding the village SDGs, as well as their participation in the planning and reporting of village SDGs to build local wisdom and village potential to achieve the well-being of the people of Lugasari Village. Based on the survey results, the community plays an active role in reporting Village SDGs and participating in programs provided by both the village government and the local government of Pringsewu Regency.

**Keywords:** Participation, Community, Government, SDGs, Village Development



## Introduction

Data on SDGs for village development planning needs to be updated so that the village apparatus can optimize the use of the data for implementing sustainable village development planning. This is in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Villages on the Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration No. 21 of 2020, which regulates the achievement of the Village SDGs. Activities in this study aim to improve the ability of village officials to update data and utilize the SDGs for village development planning, increase community participation in the implementation of the SDGs, and increase the capacity of managers and operators to update SDGs data. Village SDGs data is an integrated effort to realize the acceleration of village development through data-based community empowerment for the achievement of development goals (Permendes, 2019). A sustainable and resilient village development plan must include data on village problems and potentials and consolidate the village SDGs data into the village information system.

The participation of village communities in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Lugasari Village, Pringsewu Regency is an important step in realizing sustainable village development. The Village SDGs are an integrated effort to accelerate village development through data-based community empowerment to achieve development goals. Steps to increase the participation of village communities in supporting the Village SDGs include socialization of the Village SDGs program, data updates, the use of SDGs data for village development planning, and increasing community participation in the implementation of the SDGs (Afriansyah, 2023). The active participation of the community will hopefully create sustainable village development, integrating local wisdom and ensuring the sustainability of development that suits the characteristics and potential of each village.

Village planning based on the participation of village communities in supporting the SDGs is an important step in realizing sustainable village development. The Village SDGs are an integrated effort to accelerate village development through data-based community empowerment for the achievement of development goals (Setiawan et al., 2020). Steps to increase the participation of village communities in supporting the Village SDGs include socialization of the Village SDGs program, updating data, utilizing SDGs data for village development planning, and increasing community participation in the implementation of the SDGs. As mentioned earlier, active community participation will hopefully create sustainable village development, integrating local wisdom and ensuring the sustainability of development according to the characteristics and potential of each village (Kaehe et al., 2019).

The success of the implementation of the Village SDGs does not only depend on the role of the village government in building sustainable development but also involves community involvement in developing the potential of the village. As quoted from Sisk (2002), community participation is a core part of the essential meaning of democracy and is important for the government. The involvement of the community in the Village SDGs is evident from all elements in realizing the Village SDGs, especially in the early stages of implementation, namely the collection of Village SDGs data. In the context of the Village SDGs, community participation is a key aspect that reflects the spirit of democracy and empowerment. The active participation of the community will help create sustainable village development, integrate local wisdom, and ensure the sustainability of development following the characteristics and potential of each village. Community participation in the Village SDGs also requires a deep understanding of the program, data updates, and the use of SDGs data for village development planning (Yanti & Indahsari, 2024). Therefore, it is important to continue to increase community participation in the implementation of the Village SDGs through various empowerment and socialization activities. Village planning based on the participation of village communities in supporting the SDGs is crucial to achieving sustainable village development. The Village SDGs are an integrated effort to accelerate village development through data-based community empowerment for the achievement of development goals. Community participation in the Village SDGs reflects the spirit of democracy and empowerment. The active participation of the community will create sustainable village development, integrating local wisdom and ensuring the sustainability of development that suits the characteristics and potential of each village (Setiawan et al., 2020). Community participation in the planning and implementation of village development can also increase the effectiveness and accountability of village government. Village planning based on village community participation should involve the community in updating data, using SDGs data

for village development planning, and increasing community participation in the implementation of the SDGs. Village planning based on the participation of village communities in supporting the SDGs can help achieve sustainable and resilient village development and a more prosperous society.

Pringsewu is one of the districts in Lampung Province. It was previously part of the Tanggamus Regency, but the regency was expanded, and Pringsewu became a new regency. According to the Central Statistics Agency of Pringsewu Regency (2019) (Asiva Noor Rachmayani, 2015), the economy in Pringsewu Regency in the period 2016-2018 was dominated by three main business categories: agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (in category A); processing industry (in category C); and wholesale and retail trade, cars, and motorcycle remarketing (in category G). Pringsewu Regency consists of nine sub-districts, one of which is Pagelaran District. In this sub-district, businesses in the field of agriculture in a broad sense, such as food crops, livestock, and fisheries (especially freshwater fisheries), have great potential. It also applies to the processing and service industries. One of the 22 villages in Pagelaran District is Pekon (village) Lugusari.

Some common problems in the implementation of the Village SDGs are lack of awareness and community participation. Most people do not understand the SDGs and the importance of their role in achieving the goals. Therefore, efforts are needed to increase people's awareness and participation in the village development process (Indrianti, Tyas, Yusmiati, Santoso, 2022). The implementation of the Village SDGs requires sufficient resources, including human resources, financial resources, and technological resources. However, limited resources in villages are often an obstacle to achieving the SDGs (Lestari et al., 2024). This condition mainly occurs in villages that are still underdeveloped and lack infrastructure. Based on this background, the researchers feel the necessity to study the Participation of Village Communities in Supporting the SDGs in Lugusari Village, Pringsewu Regency, with the purpose of finding out how the community participates in the village SDGs in the development of Lugusari Village, Pringsewu Regency.

## **Research Methods**

This research was conducted in September 2023, using the census method. The determination of respondents in the study was shown to the community and village officials who were directly involved in training activities and contributed to filling and uploading data on the needs of the Village SDGs with a total of 45 respondents. The method employed in this study is descriptive quantitative by collecting data through interviews, observations, and documentation. Descriptive statistical analysis is carried out to describe or provide an overview of the object being studied (Sugiyono, 2006). This research uses 3 variables of participation, namely the level of knowledge of the village community, participation in village SDGs planning, and participation in reporting the evaluation of the Village SDGs. Community participation, according to Lahay & Rauf (2022), is the participation of the community in the process of identifying problems and potentials that exist in the community, the selection and decision-making of alternative solutions to handle problems, the implementation of efforts to overcome problems, and the involvement of the community in the process of evaluating the changes that occur. The data described comes from the results of interviews with respondents, which include the level of knowledge, community participation in planning, and community participation in reporting. Descriptive statistical analysis is carried out through several stages: a) Presentation of variable data by tabulation method, and b) Determination of respondent value trends for each variable, which is grouped into 3 (three) classes of criteria: (3) participating, (2) participating sufficiently, and (1) not participating.

## **Results and Discussion**

Community participation can be seen based on certain indicators. According to (Pangemanan, 2017), the indicators include the existence of a forum to accommodate community participation, the ability of the community to be involved in the process, and access for the community to express their opinions in the decision-making process. This study employed the three variables of participation, which were assessed from the level of knowledge, planning, and reporting.

### **The Level of Public Knowledge about the SDGs**

The level of community knowledge about the Village Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) refers to the understanding and awareness of the community at the village level about the goals, objectives, and indicators related to the achievement of the SDGs.

Table 1. Level of Public Knowledge about SDGs

Classification	Score	Number (people)	Percentage (%)
Low Level (Lack) of Participation	10.00 – 15.00	0	0
Medium Level of Participation	16.00 – 20.00	11	24.46
High Level of Participation	21.00 – 25.00	34	75.65
<b>Sum</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Authors, 2024

Table 1 above shows that the level of public knowledge about the SDGs ranges from 21.00 to 25.00 (of 34 respondents), with a percentage of 75.65. The score shows that the level of public knowledge of the SDGs' definition, function, purpose, and benefits is included at a high classification. Education has an important role in village development, and so does community participation. The community's level of education can affect their desire and ability to participate in village development. People with higher levels of education tend to be more active in participating in village development. Therefore, increasing the education level of the community can help increase their participation in village development and accelerate the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs). This is in line with research by Katili et al. (2022), who said that awareness and attitude towards the SDGs of those who have a high level of education are quite good. On the contrary, the low level of knowledge has serious negative implications for the achievement of the SDGs. Therefore, relevant methods at the individual and population levels to enlighten the public about the SDGs must be applied in educational settings. In addition, it is important to change the curriculum.

### Community Participation at the SDGs Planning Stage in Lugusari Village

The planning stage in this study is the participation of the community in conveying their ideas and the preparation of program planning. The planning stage in this study is assessed according to the participation of the community in the deliberations for the preparation of the Village SDGs. The distribution of community participation at the Village SDGs planning stage can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Distribution of Community Participation at the Village SDGs Planning Stage

Classification	Score	Number (people)	Percentage (%)
Low Participation	16.00 – 26.00	0	0
Medium Participation	27.00 – 37.00	25	55.56
High Participation	38.00 – 48.00	20	44.44
<b>Sum</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Authors, 2024

Table 2 reveals that community participation at the planning stage ranges from 27.00 to 37.00 (25 respondents), with a percentage of 55.56. It means that the participation of farmer group members at the planning stage is included in the classification of medium participation. The community plays an active role in village development planning based on village SDGs. Through village SDGs, the community finds it easier to prepare village development plans and set several programs based on the wisdom and potential of Lugusari Village, such as the fish farming program for fish farmers to get fish seeds from the government and counseling to solve problems faced by farmers. Furthermore, in Lugusari Village, there is a center for making typical cloth filters from Lampung Province, which is usually made by women from Lugusari Village. This is in line with research by Clief Naku et al. (2021), who said that community participation needs to be increased in development planning.

### Community Participation at the SDGs Reporting Stage in Lugusari Village

Community participation in Village SDGs reporting is an important aspect of monitoring and evaluating the achievement of sustainable development goals. The Village SDGs, as implemented in Lugusari Village, have the goal of

encouraging and increasing the participation of all parties in village development. The distribution of community participation at the Village SDGs reporting stage can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3. Distribution of Community Participation at the Village SDGs Reporting Stage

Classification	Score	Number of (people)	Percentage (%)
Low Participation	13.00 – 28.00	0	0
Medium Participation	29.00 – 45.00	13	28,39
High Participation	46.00 – 61.00	32	71,11
<b>Sum</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Authors, 2024

Table 3 shows that community participation at the reporting stage ranges from 46.00 to 61.00 (32 respondents), with a percentage of 71.11, which is included in the classification of high participation. Community participation in village SDGs reporting is a crucial aspect of monitoring and evaluating the achievement of sustainable development goals. Steps to increase community participation in village SDGs reporting can include various methods, such as being a member of a working group, providing correct and complete answers, and involving all levels of society, including village community institutions, in the village deliberation process (Afroz & Ilham, 2020). In addition, the importance of the participation of all parties in village development also reflects the urgency of community participation in village SDGs reporting, so that development programs truly reflect the needs and aspirations of the local community. Thus, community participation in Village SDGs reporting becomes the main foundation in ensuring that sustainable development programs truly reflect the needs and aspirations of local communities (Marzali, 2007).

## Conclusion

The results of this study show that community participation in the classification is quite good, judging from the community's knowledge of the village SDGs and their participation in the planning and reporting of village SDGs to build local wisdom and village potential to achieve the well-being of the people of Lugasari Village. In addition, the survey results also show that the community plays an active role in reporting the Village SDGs and participating in programs provided by both the village government and the local government of Pringsewu Regency.

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