

TINJAUAN**THE PARTICIPATION OF NGOs IN MANAGING COASTAL COMMUNITIES: An experience from North Sulawesi, Indonesia**Veronica A. Kumurur¹ & Markus. T. Lasut²¹ Staf Pengajar Jurusan Arsitektur, Fakultas Teknik, Universitas Sam Ratulangi² Staf Pengajar Program Studi Ilmu Kelautan, Fakultas Perikanan & Ilmu Kelautan, Universitas Sam Ratulangi

Abstrak. Kawasan pesisir adalah suatu area yang sangat produktif khususnya di Sulawesi Utara, sehingga ekosistem kawasan ini menjadi sangat rentan terhadap gangguan terutama terhadap kegiatan manusia. Pengelolaan yang melibatkan multipihak sangat penting dilakukan di area ini. Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat (LSM) atau NGO's adalah salah satu pihak yang sangat berperan di dalam penyusunan strategi pengelolaan kawasan pesisir di Sulawesi Utara. Partisipasi LSM dalam mengelola kawasan pesisir Sulawesi Utara sangat nyata (sifikikan) mempengaruhi perbaikan lingkungan kawasan ini, terutama di dalam pendidikan lingkungan dan penumbuhan partisipasi masyarakat yang bermukim di kawasan pesisir Sulawesi Utara.

Kata-kata kunci: Kawasan Pesisir, Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat, multipihak.

INTRODUCTION

Indonesian archipelago consists of approximately 75% seawater surface area and 25% land that is distributed into about 17,000 islands, and has approximately 81.000 km of coastline in which more than 60% of the population live. Indonesia has a great concern for marine and coastal resource issues since most of Indonesian population depends on those resources for their daily life. More than 50% of the protein consumed by the people is from fish resources (NRM News 2001). Such issues mostly come from degradation of coastal and marine resources.

Degradation of coastal areas is increasing due to pressures from human activities, especially pollution from both land and marine sources. Wastewater discharge to the coastal area is one of the greatest sources for coastal pollution. This happens due to lack of sewage treatment facilities, which are common in inland cities.

Agriculture practices on upland areas are sources for pesticide and fertilizer residues. Sedimentation is also caused by such practices. These human activities are the causes of degradation of coastal areas, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass, and other coastal habitats.

The coastal zone in Indonesia consists of 181 administrative areas and 42 cities. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of this country includes major contributions from coastal activities, such as oil and petroleum gas industries, tourism, fishery, and transportation. All these activities cover approximately 15% of the workforce (NRM 2001). Future generations will depend on the coastal and marine resources. Therefore suitable measures for sustainable management of coastal and marine resources are needed.

**PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
POLICIES ON MARINE AND
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT IN
NORTH SULAWESI**

In North Sulawesi Province, more than 68% of the population live in coastal areas and it is increasing day-by-day due to migration from inland areas. Approximately 90% of the national infrastructure (roads) and 25% of the provincial are situated in coastal watersheds. Tourism activity is increasing in all parts of the province (Manado Bay, Bitung, Likupang, Bolaang Mongondow, etc.) and it is followed by problems in each area.

Most of the problems arising in coastal areas are caused by lack of information and understanding of the impacts of an activity in the coastal area. Based on this condition, the local government is forced to establish a local regulation about protection and management of the coastal area. This is following the autonomy in the marine sector in the National Government Regulation No. 25 (1999) about authority between National and Provincial Governments. The Local Regulation will be as described in the Laws No. 22 (1999) that states that marine areas up to 12 miles from the coastline is managed by provincial authorities, and 1/3 of the area

or 4 miles from the coastline is under the authority of the Local Government (Kabupaten).

According to Environmental management Act No. 23 (1997), management of the coastal zone is not only conducted by the government but also by the local community as one of the stakeholders. Based on this, local communities in North Sulawesi Province participate in various activities in order to assist the government, especially local government, in managing the environment and natural resources. The communities are facilitated by non-government organizations (NGOs) to promote 'bottom-up' plans and activities in which the NGOs play as a 'bridge stone' between local communities and the government.

**NGOs' PARTICIPATION IN
INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT IN NORTH
SULAWESI**

In Indonesia, in former times, national and provincial government policies on integrated coastal zone management (IZCM) were made only for government purposes where those policies contradicted with community interests. Some examples, presidential decree on "Reklamasi pantai Utara Jakarta"

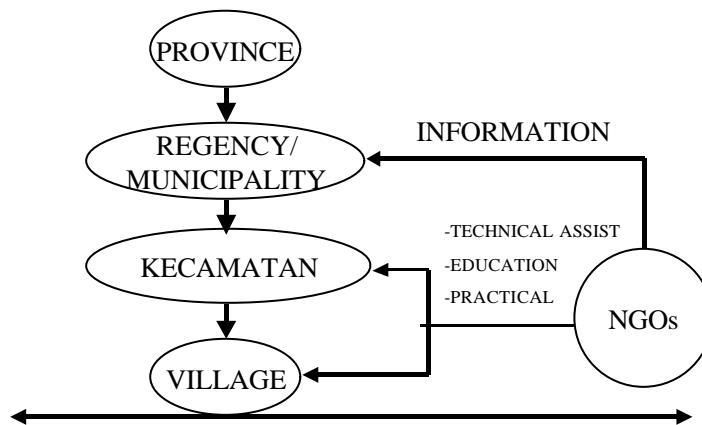


Figure 1. Participation of the NGOs in integrated coastal zone management activities

(land reclamation at the coastal area of northern Jakarta, Java), Ministry Decree on "Reklamasi Pantai Manado" (land reclamation of coastal areas of Manado, North Sulawesi). Both decrees gave benefits only for economic aspects without consideration of benefits for the local communities who live in such areas. Coastal resources were destroyed and used unsustainably. Most of the policies were "top-down".

Nowadays, in North Sulawesi, non-government organizations (NGOs) together with the community, government, and investors are effectively establishing collaboration to develop a suitable model as the strategy for planning, regulation, and policy for coastal zone management in which the local community is central (bottom-up). The NGOs establish working groups, participate in coastal zone activities, and together with the community try to understand government policies. They can also be as a 'bridge-stone' for the community to advice the local government to produce 'bottom-up' policies.

Participation of the NGOs in integrated coastal zone management activities is figured out by implementing their program activities to local communities and coastal resources (Figure 2). Community empowerment and environmental education program activities are mostly implemented to local communities.

Community empowerment activities

Most of coastal communities inhabiting small houses have low income, low quality of life due to lack of knowledge on sanitation and are more vulnerable to diseases. This is also due to lack of health facilities for their daily activities. The NGOs collaborate with a local community and funding agencies to improve health care and environmental quality in various activities, to improve environ-physical infrastructure such as clean water. The NGOs establish a

'community information center' to provide information about sustainable marine and coastal zone management for the local community.

To increase income of fisherman who live in the coastal area which are notably poorer than farmers living in inland areas, collective fishing involving small and middle scale fishing industry needs to be improved. In relation to this issue, NGOs serve as a 'bridge' between fisherman and bank creditor. Another activity is to develop ecotourism conducted by the local community itself.

Environmental education

Most of the people who live in coastal areas exploit their coastal resources to meet their daily life. They, sometimes, destroy corals to fish coral fishes, cutting mangrove for charcoal and do not understand what the functions are of such habitats. So an effort to conserve the habitats is far from their mind. Degradation of coastal resources is a result of such activities. Based on those experiences, NGOs who are concerned about the environment see how important it is that the environmental education for the community starts from elementary and secondary schools. The NGOs collaborating with the donor foundation in Indonesia (KEHATI Foundation, Natural Resource Management) have done some programs for environmental education, i.e.:

1. Living environmental education start from elementary and secondary schools for communities in coastal areas. Such education introduces directly coastal resources (mangrove, seagrass, corals, and other important marine biotas).
2. Conducting competitions for elementary, secondary and high school teachers to make academic modules on living environment. An example of that, YCCN Foundation (Yayasan Cinta Cipta Nusantara) has conducted such a competition in collaboration with KEHATI (Indonesia) in a theme of

"Lingkungan 2000, Saatnya Bertindak Nyata" (Environment 2000, now action).

3. Conducting short training on living environment, such as participatory mapping, coral reef conservation, and mangrove replantation. The short training courses, for instance, have been conducted by KELOLA Foundation.

Coastal management activities

In coastal management activities, NGOs in North Sulawesi focus their program on conservation of coastal resources, which is funded by international funding agencies, such as World Bank, US-AID. All the activities involved local communities in which the NGOs served as facilitators. Some of the activities are:

- Mangrove replantation,
- weeping and cleaning coral reefs,
- Establishing marine protected area (MPA) and marine sanctuary,
- Establishing local village regulation on protected area and coastal management,
- Community participatory mapping on coastal resources in North Sulawesi,
- Protection on endangered species (dugong, coral fishes),
- Environmental advocacy.

Based on NGOs participation in coastal management activities, two Local Village Regulations have been established, such as from Alungbanua and Blongko Villages. An example the regulations from Alungbanua Village are:

1. Village Act No. 02 (1994) about zonations (buffer zone) and its exploitation;
2. Village Act No. 03 (1994) about protection on fauna and marine biota;
3. Village Act No. 01 (1995) about zonations for coastal exploitation.

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