Regional Autonomy and Development in South Sumatra

Djunaidi¹
¹Universitas Sriwijaya, Indonesia

Corresponding author e-mail: djunaidi@unsri.ac.id

Article History: Received on 13 April 2023, Revised on 22 June 2023, Published on 30 June 2023

Abstract: This study aims to describe regional autonomy and development in South Sumatra. Community development is a process of change for the better, covering all aspects of people’s lives to improve material and mental well-being, as well as physical and psychological well-being. Regional autonomy provides broad opportunities for regions to develop their regions in accordance with the circumstances or conditions and aspirations of the local community. This research includes a literature review that discusses 1) autonomy accelerating regional development in South Sumatra which is related to infrastructure development in South Sumatra Province discussed in the coordination meeting, namely the progress of the Toll Road, namely Kayu Agung-Palembang-Betung, Kramasan (Palembang)-Musi Landas-Betung section. Sekayu-Tempino-Jambi Intersection, Indralaya-Muara Enim Intersection, Railways and Ports namely the Logistics Train, Lahat-Muara Enim-Prabumulih-Kertapati (Palembang) double track. 2) Regional development is a symbol of progress in South Sumatra, discussing regional development in South Sumatra as a symbol of success which is marked by several awards given to the province of South Sumatra. The Governor of South Sumatra has received regional autonomy and development awards several times.

Keywords: Development, Regional Autonomy, South Sumatra

A. Introduction

Regional autonomy is a new hope for implementing development as a whole where each region has the opportunity to manage, develop and develop each region according to its needs and possibilities. The principle of broad, pure and responsible autonomy and a more equitable fiscal balance requires citizens to be between the central and regional governments in financial relations, public services, use of natural resources and others. The basic principle of autonomy is inclusive, pure and responsible autonomy. This principle pays attention to aspects of democracy, participation, fairness and fairness, but still takes into account the potential and diversity of regions. Based on this principle, regional autonomy is expected to accelerate the realization of regional public interests. The public interest is of course the main objective of the autonomy policy, as was attempted at the beginning of the
reform. This goal can only be achieved by dividing government affairs between the central government and local governments.

The regional autonomy that has existed since 2001 is proven by various changes in the legal basis underlying it, from Law no. 22 of 1999, Law no. 25 of 1999, became Law no. 32 and Law no. 33 concerning Regional Government. Various improvement efforts have been made. The 2004 Fiscal Law renewed the balance between the government, central and regional governments, and was further updated with the passing of Law no. 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government. Changes in autonomy show that improvements to the regional government system remain dynamic in line with the demands and aspirations of the people. The government’s seriousness in enforcing the regional autonomy policy can be seen from Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government and Law Number 33 of 2004 concerning Balance of Central and Regional Finances, so that large regions must be independent.

There needs to be authority and capacity to procure its own financial resources and facilities, which are supported by financial balance between the centre and the regions. The core of current regional economic policies appears to have been changing the conduct of local government, with districts and cities at the centre of economic interests, including the delegation of broader powers within local governance. Of course, it is also expected to improve services, improve welfare, and ensure a better life for the community. In the implementation of community autonomy, the community is empowered to plan and allocate funds received for development implementation according to needs. In the context of regional development, the utilization of regional resources needs to be planned so that it is not misdirected. This means that your local government must know the first priority that comes to stimulating the people’s economy (Pasrah, 2007).

The regional autonomy system has three principles, which are explained in Law no. 32 of 2004 that decentralization and co-management. Regional independence can be seen from regional efficiency in financial management. This means that they must have sufficient power and ability to manage and use their own finances to explore their own financial resources and fund their own local government control. Regional independence is needed because it means it is very low and does not even depend on the central government. Dependence on the central government should be kept as low as possible.

Therefore, Regional Original Income (PAD) must be the largest source of funding supported by a policy of balancing central and regional finances as a basic need for the state. PAD is also one of the benchmarks for the successful implementation of community autonomy. The success of regional autonomy is inseparable from the capacity of the financial sector which is one of the most important indicators in facing regional autonomy. Autonomous regions are expected to be able to fund or be independent from local government activities that are less dependent on the central government, and local revenue (PAD) is used to raise funds for local government management. Therefore, PAD must be used as a benchmark in the
implementation of regional autonomy in dealing with regional autonomy to achieve a level of independence.

UU no. 33 of 2004 concerning Regional Taxes and Obligations included in PAD. Therefore, PAD is used as one of the benchmarks in the implementation of regional autonomy, but if you look at the ratio of PAD to APBD and GRDP, PAD is still relatively low. Like other regions, South Sumatra does not only rely on PAD to fund regional development expenditures, but also sources of regional income from compensation funds to increase regional income. Therefore, PAD is an important factor in regional autonomy. By exploring the various possibilities within the region, the region utilizes existing possibilities and strengthens regional development.

Regional development is a process by which local governments and their communities manage existing resources and form partnerships. All aspects of successful development Communities need to be involved in planning, implementing and assessing development because the community is aware of the problems and needs to develop its territory. Use and evaluate the success or failure of development in the field. In development, planning is a prerequisite for carrying out good development. However, careful planning does not guarantee the success of development if the implementation of activities often disrupts the development process. These constraints need to be taken into account in regional development plans in South Sumatra. Community development is a process of change for the better, covering all aspects of people’s lives in society to improve material and mental well-being, as well as physical and psychological well-being. The achievement of these critical development goals requires the implementation of various more targeted development activities based on guidelines that can provide direction, strategy and political foundation for regional development. In this regard, the development process must carry out regional, regional and national development plans, depending on the potential resources, based on the actual conditions of the area.

B. Literature Review

Regional Autonomy

Autonomy is a term that etymologically means “self-sufficiency” or “autonomy”. Even though the area is a government area or environment. From the perspective of regional autonomy, it is the regional authority to regulate and manage culture and ideology in accordance with the traditions and customs of the regional environment for the benefit of the region itself (Suharjono, 2014). Regional autonomy is a requirement for a region to reach its maximum potential (Safitri, 2016).

According to Noviades (2013) regional autonomy is the authority of autonomous regions to regulate and manage the interests of local communities according to their own initiatives based on community aspirations. According to the Regional Government Chapter 1 General Provisions based on Article 23, Article 1, Paragraph 6 of the 2014 Regional Government Law are the rights, powers, obligations and interests of the autonomous region to regulate and control the affairs of the autonomous region.
A unified unitary state system within the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (Indonesia, 2015).

Rahayu (2018) said that regional autonomy is the freedom of local government, and local government initiatives to manage and optimize their own local resources. Regional autonomy is the freedom to act according to the needs of society. Regional autonomy restores the dignity of local communities as local people who have experienced a long process of alienation since independence. They even experience alienation in public order (Syaukani, et al, 2009).

**Regional Autonomy Principles**

There are several important principles that must be understood by other Regional Autonomy Laws: 1) The principle of decentralization is the transfer of government power to autonomous regions within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. 2) The principle of delegation of authority is the delegation of authority. The government as the representative of the government to the regional government governor and/or vertical security agency. 3) The task of joint management is the task of the Regional or village government by the state government By Regency/City or Village and City-to-village Regency Government to carry out security tasks. 4) Balancing central and regional government finances is a state funding system within the framework of a unitary state that divides central and regional government finances and regional judiciary proportionally, democratically, fairly and transparently by taking into account the potential, conditions and needs of the regions, depending on the division of tasks and the ability of procedures to managing this permit includes financial management and supervision (Dhia, 2012).

Similarly, according to Indra (Tamboto, et al., 2014) the principle of autonomy is a) The principle of decentralization is the transfer of governmental authority by the government to autonomous regions within the framework of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia. b) The principle of deconcentrating is the delegation of authority from the government to governors as representatives of the government and/or central apparatus in the regions. c) Assistance tasks are assignments from the government to regions and villages as well as from regions to villages to carry out certain tasks accompanied by financing, facilities and infrastructure and human resources with the obligation to report and be accountable to those who assign them. d) The financial balance between the central and regional governments is a system of government financing within the framework of a unitary state, which includes the distribution of finances between the central and regional governments as well as equity between regions in a proportional, democratic, fair and transparent manner with obligations and distribution of authority and procedures for administering authority, including the management and supervision of its finances.

**Purpose of Regional Autonomy**

The goals from the development of regional autonomy are: 1) Strengthening the community 2) Encouraging initiative and creativity 3) Increasing participation in
society 4) Developing the role and function of DPRD. The main objective of implementing regional autonomy is to improve and promote local economic public services. Basically, it contains 3 main missions for implementing regional autonomy, namely: (1) increasing the quality and quantity of public services and public interests, (2) increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of regional resource management, (3) participating communities in the development process.

The purpose of regional autonomy based on Law Number 5 of 1975 is so that the affected regions can better manage and control their budgets. Efficiency and effectiveness of state administration in services and development of public administration (Mardiasmo, 2002). Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of regional government administration, increasing political stability and building national unity, especially in the implementation of development and services to the community (Elvawati, 2013). The purpose of granting regional autonomy is so that the affected regions can regulate and manage their own budgets, improve the efficiency and results of managing public services and implementing development. The autonomous region in question is a legitimate community with territorial boundaries that are empowered to regulate and manage the administration of government and the interests of the local community based on community efforts in the system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia on its own initiative which is a unit (Tamboto, et al., 2014).

The aim of regional autonomy to increase the welfare of the regional people by bringing public services closer to them will be difficult to achieve, even though regional autonomy has been running for more than a decade. This then triggered many regions to issue mining concessions to trigger PAD (Jati, 2012). According to the Ministry of Home Affairs and LAN (Sulistiwati, 2014) the purpose of granting regional autonomy is to provide and improve services for community satisfaction. Local governments must also provide broad opportunities for citizens to gain access to public services based on the principles of equality, transparency, accountability and justice. The aim of regional autonomy is to advance the region while at the same time advancing the state and nation as a whole. Regional autonomy provides broad opportunities for regions to develop their regions in accordance with the circumstances or conditions and aspirations of local communities or in their regions. With regional autonomy, it is hoped that local government activities in carrying out government and development tasks can run well (Issamsudin, 2018).

Legal Basis for Regional Autonomy

The legal basis for implementing regional autonomy is 1) 2nd Amendment to the 1945 Constitution consisting of: Article 18 Paragraphs 1-7, Article 18A paragraphs 1 and 2 and Article 18B paragraphs 1 and 2; 2) Decree of the MPR RI Number XV/MPR/1998 concerning Implementation of Regional Autonomy. MPR RI Decree Number IV/MPR/2000 regarding Policy Recommendations in the Implementation of Regional Autonomy; and 3) Law No. 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government.
Law No. 33 of 2004 concerning Financial Balance between Regional and Central Governments.

Regional Development

Regional development is a process carried out by regional governments and local governments managing existing resources, forming partnership patterns between local governments and the private sector, creating new jobs and encouraging the development of economic activities. The concept of development is usually put into the context of the study of change, where development is defined as a form of planned change. Every person or group of people will definitely expect a change that is better or perfect than the previous situation. Of course, we need a plan to realize this hope. Planned development is perceived as a more rational and orderly effort for the development of a society that has not developed or is currently developing (Subandi, 2011).

The actual development consists of two main components. The first is the problem of materials being produced and distributed, and the second is the problem of humans who are the initiators and humans who are the builders. However, development must ultimately be aimed at development carried out by humans. The main issue of regional development is utilizing the potential of human, institutional and physical resources in the field (regions) and focusing on development policies (endogenous development) aimed at the uniqueness of each region.

C. Methods

Research techniques are essentially a scientific approach in collecting data for specific purposes and applications (Sugiyono, 2018). Qualitative descriptive approach used in this study. The term “descriptive” comes from the English phrase “description,” which means to describe or characterize something, such as a state, condition, situation, event, action, and so on. So, descriptive research refers to studies that investigate circumstances, situations, or other specified items, whose findings are published in the form of research reports (Arikunto, 2013). Source of data in this study is an important component because it will affect the quality of research. This study uses secondary data, namely data collected from secondary or secondary sources of the required data (Bungin, 2017). Journals and books supporting the research studies were used to collect data for this investigation. Researchers also examine the phenomena that occur in connection with regional autonomy and development.

D. Results and Discussion

Autonomy Accelerates Regional Development in South Sumatra

Palembang City has an area of 400.61 km². Taking into account these conditions various services with spans of control are close to the community. Administratively, the city of Palembang consists of 18 sub-districts and 107 sub-districts. The presence of the lowest level government is expected to bring services closer to the community.
The location of Palembang City is important in seeing the success of development in South Sumatra Province. Regional Regulation Number 3 of 2019 concerning the Palembang City Regional Medium-Term Development Plan for 2018-2023 (Palembang City Regional Gazette of 2019 Number 3) as amended by Regional Regulation Number 2 of 2021 concerning Amendments to Regional Regulation Number 3 of 2019 concerning Development Plans Palembang City Regional Medium Term 2018-2023 (Palembang City Regional Gazette of 2021 Number 2) (Palembang Mayor Regulation).

One of the breakthroughs of the South Sumatra government in solving various problems that have arisen, especially in the field of regional autonomy. Regional autonomy provides an opportunity for regions to uniquely realize their potential in regulating and managing regional development. Regional autonomy is also a tool to encourage growth and equitable development in various regions as well as increase the importance of natural and human resources. Regulations regarding regional autonomy have been regulated since 1999 and have undergone improvements until now Law no. 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government.

Regional autonomy can be interpreted as the rights, powers and obligations that must be owned by an autonomous region to regulate and control the affairs of the autonomous regional government and the interests of the community. Serving the community and carrying out development in accordance with the provisions. The implementation of regional autonomy has opened up opportunities for regional identity including South Sumatra. The limited authority and control of the central government has been well accepted by regional governments in dealing with their regional problems. In fact, more money was raised than was withdrawn from the central government through bureaucratic channels. These funds enable local governments to promote regional development and launch cultural promotion programmes. Local government policies are also getting more targeted and it doesn't take much time to become more effective.

Regional autonomy can also be a pattern of regional development. Regional independence has a reasonable meaning as long as each region respects independence and the freedom to exploit its potential. In addition, community autonomy is a form of trust in the community's ability to organize and manage development.

Regional autonomy as a national political policy is a strategic step that is expected to slightly accelerate regional growth and development and further realize the balance of development between regions in Indonesia. The centralized development policies of the past are no longer appropriate and have many weaknesses. However, regional development does not just happen. For this reason, steps and processes for implementing accountable government are needed by regional government administrators, namely the DPRD, provinces, districts and cities) and local government agencies (governors, regents and mayors) (Mardenis, 2016).

Several infrastructure developments for the South Sumatra Province discussed in the coordination meeting were the progress of the 111.69 km Kayu Agung-Palembang-Betung Toll Road, the 42.5 km operational Kayu Agung-Kramasan
(Palembang) section, inaugurated by the President on January 26, 2021. Then the Kramasan (Palembang)-Musi Landas-Betung section is 69.19 km long, the physical progress is 26.01%, the operational plan is March 2022. The Sekayu-Tempino-Jambi intersection is 134.09 km long. The progress of preparing land acquisition and awaiting the Concession Agreement process Toll Road (PPJT). Indralaya-Muara Enim intersection 119.10 km long, Indralaya-Prabumulih section 64.5 km long, 47.41% physical progress, operational target for July 2022.

Then the Prabumulih-Muara Enim section is 54.6 Km long, the physical progress is 8.733% operational target for December 2022. Furthermore, Railways and Ports, namely the Logistics Train, Lahat-Muara Enim-Prabumulih-Kertapati (Palembang) double track is currently 100 percent complete. The New Palembang Port in Tanjung Carat is currently in the process of determining a location by the Ministry of Transportation, the process of determining it as a PSN, the process of transferring the function of a forest area and the process of a PPP financing plan. Furthermore, Dam and Irrigation, namely the Tiga Dihaji Dam in OKU Selatan Regency, has a physical progress of 22.87%. The construction of an irrigation network for the Lematang area covering an area of 3,000 hectares. Phase I of the construction of the weir has been completed 100%, phase II the construction of the main canal and secondary canal is currently still in progress (Diskominfo OKU Selatan, 2021).

Thus, regional autonomy provides a solution to encourage regional development progress. In the policies implemented by the government, people are encouraged and given various opportunities to develop creativity and innovation. The culmination of the implementation of community autonomy is realizing the public interest through service improvement and active community participation. Regional autonomy encourages a climate of freedom of assembly, association and expression. Regional autonomy aims to increase community participation and accountability in governance. Ensuring that community participation in the form of local government regulations is still necessary and not mandatory for local governments. For example, it will continue to be considered in development planning and budgeting.

On the other hand, the community's ability to control government performance is not materialized due to the absence of institutionalized procedures or mechanisms that allow the community to complain and monitor development performance. The consequences of public complaints are never known, so that in general no information is given about the complaints that have been answered and followed up. The state government is obliged to prepare spatial plans as an integral part of the state development plan. Make local government development plans by involving all stakeholders. Regional development plans consist of a 20-year Regional Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPD), a 5-year Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD), and a one-year Regional Development Work Plan (RKPD). Regional governments are responsible for the results of regional development accelerating economic development by increasing the productivity of sectors or industries that can accommodate more workers than the poor. In addition, local governments are
challenged to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of various poverty reduction policies and programs.

Regional Development Symbol of Progress in South Sumatra

The implementation of regional autonomy, which was marked by the spirit of power sharing and fiscal decentralization, began to be fully implemented in early 2001, precisely on January 1, 2001. This was in accordance with the mandate contained in Law no. 22 of 1999 concerning Regional Government and Law no. 25 of 1999 concerning Financial Balance between the Center and the Regions, along with all Government Regulations and other derivative and supporting provisions. The two laws have been replaced by Law no. 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government and Law no. 33 of 2004 concerning Financial Balance between the Central Government and Regional Governments.

Development is the embodiment of the nation's desire and goal to realize structural changes through systematic efforts. Whenever human development or improving the quality of human resources is very important. It is necessary to emphasize the importance of recruiting human resources in development, because the quality of local human resources (strong human resources) plays a major role in the successful management of regional development. Palembang City DPRD Improves the Quality of Human Resources (HR) On an ongoing basis, it involves three important aspects, namely improving the physical quality (health), intelligence (education), and economy (purchasing power) of all members of the community. The level of education and health of individual residents is a dominant factor that must be prioritized in improving the quality of staff. With the high level of education and health in the city of Palembang, it will determine the ability to absorb and manage sources of economic growth, both in terms of technology and key institutions, in order to improve the welfare of the population itself. Lead activities to all high economic levels. Therefore, to encourage economic growth, human development is also needed in the context of the regional economy.

Regional development in South Sumatra has been carried out by the government of South Sumatra. This can be seen from the success of regional autonomy that has been running. In the process of development, South Sumatra is rich in natural resources. Natural resources play a very important role in our lives, and the use of natural resources needs to be balanced with development. Excessive development of natural resources often damages the ecosystem and the environment around the development. Either minor damage that can be repaired or serious damage that makes reforestation difficult. If this continued, it would endanger future lives.

Progress in development in this era, in addition to improving existing facilities, actually has a positive side, namely boosting the economy of the community around the development. Development is also a sign that the area is progressing. Technology-based development and evolution can make society more modern, but it still has its drawbacks. As a result of the continuous evolution of technology aimed at making work easier, this makes it more difficult for people to lift heavy objects and tends to
rely more on the convenience of technology. Similar to developments that are currently developing. The impact is damage to the surrounding environment. It is inevitable that the place that is being developed will experience environmental damage.

The implementation of regional autonomy is basically designed to improve local government services to the community, as well as the responsive possibilities and needs of each region. The method chosen is that the regional government of South Sumatra can increase its rights and obligations to control its household, but still within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Successful development is a need created by and for humans. The people who carry out development always return to their basic role, namely for the benefit of the people. Currently, the success of development is often a measure of the success of public policy, not the subject or goal of development, namely the success of the people. Therefore, changes in the meaning of successful development reduce the importance of development actors which are limited to those who are insured. The success of national development must be seen as a whole by integrating the material and spiritual development of the people. The measure of the success of material development is indicated by various indicators such as the level of economic growth, the percentage of poverty, and the amount of available infrastructure. From the spiritual side, it can be measured by the proportion of education and freedom of religion. However, in essence these indicators are only portraits or general descriptions achieved compared to the conditions of development goals. The ultimate goal of human development is human quality as the true wealth of the country. The success of such development usually lies in the fact that the person is physically and mentally wealthy. This means that at least people can have a decent life (clothing, food, shelter), education and health.

In general, the human development index value calculated using the new method will be lower than the human development index using the old method. South Sumatra's Human Development Index was 66.75 in 2014, but it is still in the moderate category and has continued to increase over the last five years. The determinants of changes in the Human Development Index, the indicators that make up the human development index, need to be taken into account. The first indicator is the health aspect, the life expectancy indicator, the life expectancy rate for South Sumatra is 68.93 in 2014 and the index is 75.27 (ideal index 100) aged 69 years. According to midwives (69.40%) and doctors (18.69%), the role of traditional obstetricians in the midwifery process in South Sumatra is still very large, supported by data from the field of 11.30%. The second indicator of the educational aspect uses the expected length of schooling and the average length of schooling. The expected length of schooling in South Sumatra in 2014 was 11.75 with an index of 65.28 (ideal index of 100). This means that the average resident of South Sumatra wants to visit schools up to the third grade of high school. Meanwhile, RLS in South Sumatra in 2014 was 7.66 years old with an index of 51.06 (ideal index of 100). The last indicator is a decent standard of living dimension. Expenditure data per capita shows that the average purchasing power of
the people of South Sumatra is IDR 67.93. This shows that it is at 9,302,000.00 (ideal index of 100) (South Sumatra Central Bureau of Statistics, 2014). The success of this development can be seen from the several awards that have been won by the Province of South Sumatra as a province that has implemented successful regional development.

D. Conclusion

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that the regional autonomy of South Sumatra can encourage regional development progress. Regional autonomy can also be a pattern for regional development to be faster. Implementation of community autonomy can be achieved because it is determined by the ability of the government of South Sumatra. This means that regional autonomy can only function optimally if its human resources are superior in terms of spirituality and productivity. The importance of human resources as executors because human resources are a dynamic element of an organization that acts or functions as the subject of the wheels of government. Therefore, the low qualifications of mentality and human skills automatically have a negative impact on the realization of regional autonomy in South Sumatra. Regional development in South Sumatra is used as a symbol of success, this is marked by several awards given to the province of South Sumatra. The Governor of South Sumatra has received regional autonomy and development awards several times.

E. Acknowledgement

I thank to rector, lecturers and all stakeholders of Universitas Sriwijaya who have helped me in this meaningful project.

References


Badan Pusat Statistik Sumatera Selatan. (2014). Menelisik Indeks Pembangunan Manusia Sumatera Selatan [Examining the South Sumatra Human Development Index]. Sumatera Selatan: BPS.


