

The Role of Field Facilitators in the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (Pamsimas) in Manjuto Jaya Village, Air Manjuto Sub-District, Mukomuko District

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Received: 8 October 2023
Revised: 25 October 2023
Accepted: 4 November 2023

Abstract

The Pamsimas Development, which is one of the government programs aimed at improving access to drinking water and sanitation, is funded by the state budget allocated to specific regions. Implemented since 2008, Pamsimas has had a positive impact on communities scattered across villages and urban areas, especially in meeting the needs for drinking water, sanitation, and promoting health behavior changes. Currently, Pamsimas is considered a flagship program for the development of drinking water and sanitation supply systems in rural and urban areas, aiming to increase the number of residents who can access drinking water and sanitation services. The program also seeks to enhance the adoption of clean and healthy living values and behaviors, with the goal of achieving 100% access to drinking water and sanitation by 2024. Pamsimas is viewed as a strategic step in improving community access to drinking water and sanitation, with a community-based approach that emphasizes empowerment and sustainability as key factors for success. The role of Field Facilitators (FF) is crucial in maintaining the quality and success of the PAMSIMAS program implementation. Close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, local governments, and the community is essential to effectively achieve program objectives. In the implementation of PAMSIMAS development, discrepancies between proposed plans and actual realization often occur, highlighting the need for the role of Technical Implementing Officers (Field Facilitators) in rationalizing planning outcomes for PAMSIMAS development.

Keywords: Field Facilitators (FF), PAMSIMAS, DAK Swakelola

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How to Cite: Rachman, D., & Leonanda, B. (2023). The Role of Field Facilitators in the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (Pamsimas) in Manjuto Jaya Village, Air Manjuto Sub-District, Mukomuko District. *International Journal of Education, Information Technology, and Others*, 6(4), 169-176. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10447236>

INTRODUCTION

The essence of development policy should fundamentally be fair, democratic, open, participatory, and integrated so that the existing regional development disparities can be promptly addressed. While addressing backwardness in a region is the responsibility of the local government itself, the central government plays a greater role in facilitating and coordinating these efforts. Comprehensive development is needed, starting from small-scale village development, addressing various issues in villages, progressing to higher levels of development in districts/cities, and at the national level. The Indonesian government is committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS-MDG) sector, aiming to halve the proportion of the population without access to clean water and basic sanitation by 2045. In

line with this commitment, Indonesia is implementing the Community-Based Water Supply and Sanitation Program (Pamsimas), which is a structured national program organized by both the central and local governments to enhance rural population access to water facilities from peri-urban areas.

Currently, development in various fields is actively being pursued by the Indonesian nation. Development is an effort to create prosperity and well-being for the people. Therefore, the results of development must be enjoyed by the entire population, leading to fair and equitable improvement in physical and spiritual well-being. Alongside the rapid physical development, companies are emerging as implementers, planners, and supervisors for building, road, and irrigation projects. This is motivated by the hope of securing employment and substantial profits.

Pamsimas development, one of the government's programs to enhance water supply and sanitation access, is funded by the national budget allocated to specific regions. Implemented since 2008, Pamsimas has had a positive impact on communities in villages/urban areas, particularly in meeting the needs for drinking water, sanitation, and promoting health behavior change. Currently, Pamsimas is a flagship program for developing rural/urban water supply and sanitation systems, aiming to increase the number of residents accessing water and sanitation services, and promoting clean and healthy living behavior to achieve 100% access to water and sanitation by 2024.

The 2019 Pamsimas Program is a continuation of the 2018 program, serving as an instrument for implementing two national agendas: (1) Clean Water for the People and (2) Community-Based Total Sanitation. The program aims to increase access to adequate and sustainable water supply and sanitation services for underserved communities, including low-income populations in rural and peri-urban areas. It also seeks to enhance the implementation of clean and healthy living values and behaviors to achieve Millennium Development Goals in the water and sanitation sector through the development and expansion of community-based development approaches.

Pamsimas is implemented to support sustainable settlement development. As a community-based approach, Pamsimas places the community as the main actor and simultaneously as the responsible party for the implementation of activities. The implementation of Pamsimas is supported by management units at the central and regional levels, as well as at the village/community level, along with consultants and facilitators.

The Pamsimas Program is proposed 1-2 years before implementation, causing budgetary discrepancies due to changes in material prices and wages. Addressing these issues is essential to ensure that the planning budget aligns with the implementation plan.

RESEARCH METHOD

The types and methods utilized in this research are Qualitative Descriptive, specifically employing the method or approach of a case study. This research focuses intensively on a particular object studied as a case. The data used in this research consists of two types: Primary data, which is obtained directly from the primary source through field studies, and secondary data, which is

information obtained from literature studies, such as books, papers, journals, and previous related research, also referred to as processed data.

Data collection involves various methods that researchers can use to gather information. "Data collection can be carried out in several ways such as experiments, surveys, or field observations" (Morissan, 2012, p. 26). In this study, the author employs Qualitative Data Analysis techniques, involving an analysis based on acquired data, followed by the development of specific relationship patterns or hypotheses. The research instruments include observation, interviews, literature review, and documentation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Stages of Planning and Implementation of PAMSIMAS

The planning stage of the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (PAMSIMAS) involves a series of strategic steps to ensure the success and sustainability of the program. The following are the main stages in the development planning of PAMSIMAS: (1) Identification of Target Areas: Determine the areas or regions that are the focus of the PAMSIMAS program. Identify these areas based on the level of need, accessibility, and potential positive impact on community well-being. (2) Mapping and Needs Analysis: Conduct mapping and analysis of drinking water and sanitation needs in the target areas. Identify points of water sources, accessibility levels, sanitation needs, and health issues related to water.



Image 1. Planning and Planning Evaluation Stage

(3) Community Consultation: Involve the local community in the planning process. Organize meetings, discussion forums, or participatory workshops to listen to the aspirations, needs, and expectations of the community regarding drinking water and sanitation. (4) Risk and Vulnerability Assessment: Conduct a risk and vulnerability assessment of water and sanitation provision. Identify factors that may hinder or enhance the success of the program. (5) Development of a Strategic Plan: Develop a strategic plan that includes goals, objectives, and strategies to achieve desired outcomes. This plan should consider program sustainability, community participation, and technical aspects. (6) Project Design: Create a project design that includes water and sanitation infrastructure, such as well construction, pipe installation, sanitation facility construction, and others.

Ensure that the design complies with technical standards and community needs. (7) Budget Planning: Determine the budget needed for program implementation. The budget plan should include construction costs, maintenance, community training, and other activities. (8) Management Framework Development: Create a program management framework, including organizational structure, governance, and the roles of each party involved. Specify the roles of local government, the community, and other partners. (9) Technology and Construction Method Selection: Choose technology and construction methods that are suitable for local conditions and community needs. Ensure that the selected technology can be operated and maintained by the local community. (10) Project Plan Document Preparation: Prepare project plan documents covering all aspects of planning, design, budget, and management framework. These documents are required to obtain approval and support from relevant parties. (11) Proposal Submission and Approval: Submit project proposals to relevant parties, including local government, financing institutions, and development partners. Ensure obtaining the necessary approval and support. (12) Resource Procurement: Procure the necessary resources for project implementation, including material, equipment, and labor. (13) Community Awareness Campaign Implementation: Conduct a community awareness campaign to enhance understanding and community participation in the program. Inform the community about the benefits, risks, and their responsibilities in the PAMSIMAS program. This planning stage is a crucial foundation for the smooth implementation of the PAMSIMAS program. It is important to involve all relevant stakeholders, including local government, the community, and development partners in the planning process to ensure the success and sustainability of the program.

Implementation Stages of PAMSIMAS Development

The stages of implementing the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (PAMSIMAS) involve a series of concrete steps to carry out the prepared plan. The following are the stages of PAMSIMAS development implementation: (1) Procurement and Mobilization of Resources: Initiate the process of procuring planned resources, including construction materials, equipment, and labor. Mobilize these resources to the project site. (2) Infrastructure Development: Commence the construction of drinking water and sanitation infrastructure according to the project design. This includes well construction, pipe installation, development of water distribution systems, and the construction of sanitation facilities. (3) Community Assistance and Involvement: Actively involve the community throughout the implementation process. Socialize project progress and provide understanding to the community regarding the management, maintenance, and use of the new water and sanitation facilities.



Image 2. Implementation Stage of PAMSIMAS Development

(4) Quality Supervision and Control: Conduct supervision and quality control during the construction process. Ensure that the work is carried out in accordance with the established technical standards and project design. (5) Time Management: Effectively manage the project implementation timeline. Ensure that all activities proceed according to the schedule outlined in the project plan. (6) Cost Management: Carefully manage the project budget. Monitor expenditures and ensure that costs incurred align with the planned budget. (7) Community Empowerment: Continue community empowerment activities by involving them in the maintenance and operation of water and sanitation facilities. Provide necessary training and support. (8) Technical Assistance: Provide technical assistance to the community regarding the operation and maintenance of facilities. Ensure that the community has sufficient understanding of the technical management of these facilities.



Picture 3. Implementation Support Stage of PAMSIMAS Development

(9) Reporting and Communication: Provide regular reports on the project's progress to relevant parties, including local government, development partners, and the community. Maintain open communication. (10) Monitoring and Evaluation: Continue periodic monitoring and evaluation during the implementation stage. Identify problems or obstacles early and take corrective action if necessary. (11) Community Awareness Activities: Continue community awareness activities to ensure ongoing understanding and participation. Provide

information on cleanliness, efficient water use, and good sanitation practices. (12) Risk Management: Always identify and manage potential risks that may arise during project implementation. Prepare mitigation plans and respond promptly to any emerging issues. (13) Strengthening Partnerships: Maintain and strengthen partnerships with local government, non-governmental organizations, and development partners. Strong partnerships support the exchange of information and resources. (14) Development of Sustainability Plans: During implementation, develop or update sustainability plans to ensure that the built facilities can operate effectively and provide long-term benefits. (15) Strengthening Community Capacity: Continuously enhance community capacity through training and education. Ensure that the community has the necessary skills to manage and maintain facilities effectively. The implementation stage of PAMSIMAS requires good coordination, strict supervision, and active participation from all relevant parties to ensure the success of the program and have a positive impact on community well-being.

Irrelevant Factors Between Planning and Implementation in PAMSIMAS Development

There are several factors that can cause irrelevance between planning and implementation in the development of the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (PAMSIMAS). These factors involve technical, managerial, and social aspects. Here are some of these factors:

1. Changes in Local Conditions: Local conditions that can change, such as climate, geology, or demographics, can affect the sustainability and effectiveness of the initial plan. These changes may not be predicted during planning and may necessitate adjustments to project strategies and designs.
2. Insufficient Community Engagement: Lack of community engagement during the planning phase can lead to a gap between the plan and implementation. If the community lacks sufficient understanding or does not feel ownership of the project, implementation can become challenging.
3. Changes in Community Needs: Evolving community needs over time can be a factor of irrelevance. For example, unforeseen population growth or changes in water usage patterns can result in a mismatch between planned infrastructure and the actual needs of the community.
4. Technological Mismatch: Choosing technology that is not suitable for local conditions or beyond the capabilities of the community can lead to irrelevance. Overly advanced or difficult-to-operate technologies for the local population can hinder project success.
5. Financial Constraints: Financial constraints, such as changes in budget or the availability of funds not aligning with initial estimates, can lead to adjustments or cutbacks in the project scope. This can impact the quality and completeness of implementation.
6. Political and Social Instability: Political or social instability at the local or national level can influence project implementation. Conflicts or government policy changes can result in irrelevance between plans and implementation.

7. **Managerial Issues:** Errors or challenges in project management, including a lack of managerial skills or experience, can lead to irrelevance. Choosing incompetent contractors or coordination issues can affect project progress.
8. **Human Resource Limitations:** Inadequate human resources or difficulties in recruiting skilled labor can be obstacles. This can slow down or impede project implementation progress.
9. **Government Policy Changes:** Changes in government policies related to drinking water and sanitation can impact the project. Incompatibility between the initial plan and new policies may require adjustments to project strategies.
10. **Crises or Natural Disasters:** Unexpected events such as natural disasters or crises can significantly impact project implementation. The initial plan may not have considered these risks.
11. **Non-Compliance with Standards and Regulations:** Unanticipated changes in technical standards or government regulations during planning can lead to non-compliance between the plan and project implementation.
12. **Inability to Measure Social Impact:** The inability to accurately measure social impact during planning can result in less effective project sustainability. Poorly understood social impacts can hinder the achievement of project goals.

To address the irrelevance between planning and implementation in PAMSIMAS development, routine evaluation, careful monitoring, and active involvement of all stakeholders are necessary. Flexibility in adapting to changing conditions and needs is key to ensuring the success and sustainability of the program.

Steps to Overcome Challenges in Implementing PAMSIMAS Development

Overcoming challenges in the implementation of the Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (PAMSIMAS) requires a comprehensive and responsive approach to address each emerging challenge. The following are the steps that can be taken to overcome challenges in the implementation of PAMSIMAS development: (1) Openly Identify Challenges, (2) Consultation and Community Engagement, (3) Routine Monitoring and Evaluation, (4) Collaboration with Relevant Parties, (5) Project Plan Refinement, (6) Active Risk Management, (7) Involvement of Technical Experts, (8) Training and Capacity Building, (9) Budget and Resource Adjustments, (10) Swift Response to Environmental Changes, (11) Open Communication with the Community, (12) Independent Audit: Consider involving a third party or an independent audit team to objectively evaluate project implementation, (13) Use of Monitoring Technology, (14) Learning from Experience, (15) Continuous Improvement.

Addressing challenges in the implementation of PAMSIMAS development requires a combination of technical, managerial, and participatory approaches. With the active involvement of all stakeholders and a responsive attitude towards change, the PAMSIMAS project has a better chance of achieving its desired goals.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of the above issues, it can be concluded that the role of FIELD FACILITATOR (FF) in PAMSIMAS Development is as follows:

1. FIELD FACILITATOR (FF) must actively monitor the planning stage of PAMSIMAS development.
2. FIELD FACILITATOR (FF) actively participates in evaluating the results of PAMSIMAS development planning.
3. FIELD FACILITATOR (FF) actively accompanies in addressing issues during the implementation of PAMSIMAS development.
4. FIELD FACILITATOR (FF) also determines policies regarding field issues during the implementation of PAMSIMAS development.

From the above conclusions, the author suggests that the realization of PAMSIMAS Development should be planned more carefully to minimize obstacles during the implementation of PAMSIMAS development.

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