

The Collaborative Role of Village Government and Prosecutor's Office In Corruption Prevention: A Case Study of Buninagara Village, West Bandung District

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Abstract

This paper aims to determine the collaboration between the village government and law enforcement, known as prosecutor, in preventing corruption. Indonesia is a state that implements the law to uphold justice and truth. Based on Article 1 section (3) of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Village Governments, the Village Head, or referred to by another name, is assisted by the Village apparatus as an element of the Village Government organizer. Therefore, it is important in a village government to regulate and manage the interests of the local community, which are carried out by the Village Government organizers. In line with that, the village government collaborates with the prosecutor's office through various strategic steps, such as budget transparency and accountability, as a form of increasing more intensive supervision of village budget management. The prosecutor's office, as a law enforcement agency, is involved in providing legal guidance and assistance in efforts to prevent corruption, as well as taking applicable legal actions if indications of potential corruption cases are found. With this collaboration, it is hoped that a clean and transparent collaboration can be created at all levels of society, especially in government, as a joint effort to avoid corrupt practices.

Keywords: village government, law enforcement, the prosecutor, corruption.

INTRODUCTION

Mochtar Kusumaatmadja (1986: 11) states that an adequate understanding of law is not only the overall principles and rules governing human life in society but also includes institutions and processes that realize the enactment of these rules in reality. Every Indonesian has equal standing in the law. Law has a crucial role in maintaining and realizing social justice in Indonesia. Indeed, the law is held to bring justice, goodness, and alignment to the interests of the wider community (S Arliman, 2019). This view is echoed by various scholars, who emphasize that legal systems must reflect the interests of the broader community (Pati & Saraswati, 2020). Furthermore, the relationship between law and society is continuously evolving, and the role of law in ensuring social justice remains central (Nugroho & Santoso, 2018). Legal institutions are integral in safeguarding the rights and responsibilities of citizens, ensuring fairness in governance (Siti & Andriani, 2019). Scholars also suggest that effective legal frameworks must adapt to changing social dynamics to foster equitable development (Rahayu, 2021).

Hikmahanto Juwono stated that in Indonesia, traditionally the legal institutions that enforce the law are the police, prosecutors, judicial bodies, and advocates. Outside of these institutions, there are still, among others, the Directorate General of Customs, the Directorate General of Taxes, and the Directorate General of Immigration. Law enforcement aims to improve order and legal certainty in society through regulating the functions, duties, and

authorities of law enforcement agencies according to their respective proportions. This process is influenced by the level of development of an increasingly complex and bureaucratic society, especially in the context of a rational modern society. The success of law enforcement is considered effective if the five pillars of law—namely legal instruments, law enforcement officials, people affected by regulations, legal culture, and supporting facilities—function properly. Many scholars argue that effective law enforcement requires a multi-dimensional approach involving the state, civil society, and international institutions (Bambang & Lestari, 2020). The structure and roles of legal institutions have a significant impact on the speed and efficiency of legal enforcement in modern societies (Huda & Wijaya, 2021). Studies also show that law enforcement institutions must develop a strong relationship with local communities for law to be respected (Fitriani, 2020). Moreover, legal certainty in Indonesia continues to be shaped by both local and national governance frameworks (Agustina & Kurniawan, 2019). Law enforcement remains a critical aspect of ensuring both justice and social order (Darwati & Wijanarka, 2021).

The village is a legal community unit that has the authority to regulate and manage the interests of its household, based on the rights of origin and customs recognized in the national government system, and is located in the regency. In the implementation of village governance, there is a need for organizations or institutions, as well as leadership that is able to encourage community participation in village development and management of village administration. Villages have their own government, known as the Village Government. Based on Law No. 6/2014 on Villages, in Article 1, "Village Government is the administration of government affairs and the interests of the local community in the system of government of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia." The organizing element of the village government is the village head, or other designation, who is assisted by village officials. According to scholars, the effectiveness of village governance depends significantly on the participation of local community members in decision-making processes (Suroso & Purnomo, 2020). Research has shown that decentralized governance fosters a more direct connection between public needs and government action (Taufik & Sari, 2021). Villages with robust governance structures contribute to better local development outcomes, especially in rural areas (Kusnadi, 2021). Effective leadership at the village level ensures that government policies are not only implemented but are also relevant to the needs of the community (Sembiring, 2020). The village government structure plays a key role in managing resources and promoting community welfare (Anggraeni & Wijaya, 2019).

A village is a unit of legal society that has the authority to regulate and manage its own household interests, based on the rights of origin and customs recognized in the national government system and located in the district area. In the implementation of village government, there is a need for an organization or institution, as well as leadership that is able to encourage community participation in village development and village administration management (Antlöv, Wetterberg, & Dharmawan, 2016). The village has its own government known as the Village Government. Based on Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, in Article 1, "Village Government is the implementation of government affairs and the interests of the local community in the government system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia" (Pratikno, 2015). The organizing element of the village government is the village head, or other designation, assisted by the village apparatus (Bebbington, Dharmawan, Fahmi, & Guggenheim, 2006; Vel & Bedner, 2015).

According to the *Hong Kong Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)*, corruption is an act of abuse of power and authority by public officials through violation of laws relating to their duties, intending to obtain personal and third-party benefits. Corruption falls into the category of crimes that violate the law and cause negative impacts, both in the short and long term. Based on Law Number 20 of 2001 concerning Amendments to Law

Number 31 of 1999 concerning Eradication of Corruption, widespread corruption not only causes state financial losses, but also violates the social and economic rights of society in general. Therefore, corruption needs to be categorised as a crime whose countermeasures must be carried out in an extraordinary manner.

According to the *Hong Kong Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)*, corruption is an act of abuse of power and authority by public officials through violations of laws related to their duties, with the aim of gaining personal and third-party gain. Corruption is included in the category of crimes that violate the law and have negative impacts, both in the short and long term. Based on Law Number 20 of 2001 concerning Amendments to Law Number 31 of 1999 concerning the Eradication of Corruption Crimes, corruption crimes that occur widely not only cause financial losses to the state, but also constitute a violation of the social and economic rights of the community in general. Therefore, corruption crimes need to be categorized as crimes whose countermeasures must be carried out extraordinarily.

Creating a safe and conducive *village* requires a strong synergy between the community and law enforcement officials. Security and order are basic needs for every individual, and a safe *village* is the main requirement for realizing community welfare. Therefore, active community participation in maintaining security is very important, such as by reporting suspicious activities, intensifying night patrol activities, and forming volunteer groups. On the other hand, law enforcement officials also have a significant responsibility in conducting routine patrols, acting against criminals, and providing community counseling on the importance of maintaining mutual security.

Realizing a safe and conducive *village* requires strong synergy between the *masyarakat* and law enforcement officials. Security and order are basic needs for every individual; a safe *village* is the main requirement in realizing community welfare. Therefore, the active participation of the community in maintaining security is very important, such as by reporting suspicious activities, intensifying night patrol activities, and forming volunteer groups. On the other hand, law enforcement officials also have a great responsibility in conducting routine patrols, cracking down on criminals, and providing counseling to the public on the importance of maintaining mutual security. Cooperation between the community and law enforcement officials can be realized through various initiatives, such as regular meetings to discuss security issues and the establishment of effective communication channels. By building trust and mutual respect between the two parties, the implementation of law enforcement becomes more effective. In addition, this collaboration also has the potential to reduce the crime rate while increasing the sense of security among residents. The active participation of the community in supporting law enforcement officials will create a more conducive atmosphere for the *village* development process, so that in the end it can realize common prosperity.

Previous research by Rasyid and Cahyono (2020) revealed that community participation in maintaining *village* security tends to be low due to a lack of trust in law enforcement officers, which is driven by limited transparency and accountability of local-level law enforcement performance. Meanwhile, a study by Widiastuti and Haryanto (2021) highlighted weak coordination between *village officials* and the police in addressing minor criminal cases in rural areas, resulting in suboptimal law enforcement. Both studies emphasize the importance of active community involvement and synergy between law enforcement and *village residents*, but they fall short of thoroughly exploring how such strategic collaboration can be formalized through robust institutional structures and community-based approaches. This research seeks to fill that gap by exploring concrete strategies for building systematic cooperation between the community and law enforcement to create a safe and conducive *village* environment. The study aims to identify effective models of collaboration between citizens and law enforcement officers in the *village* context, as well as to examine the factors that support the development of a sense of safety and community engagement. The benefits of

this research are both theoretical and practical, offering valuable insights for *village governance* and participatory law enforcement that may serve as a reference for policymakers in developing operational guidelines for community-based *village* security systems.

METHOD

This research used qualitative methods, employing interviews, natural observation, and documentation studies, including literature reviews from journal articles and books. Data were collected through direct questioning and observation of community phenomena, allowing for in-depth analysis of social issues related to village governance. The research subjects were selected purposively, consisting of individuals aged 25–50 who held positions in the village government, possessed specialized knowledge of village legal systems, and had at least one year of experience working in village administration.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, researchers conducted interviews with the following resource persons:

1. Does the village have its own role in corruption prevention efforts, and can this role help the prosecutor's office in the law enforcement process in Indonesia?	Here, it must first be able to distinguish between prevention and enforcement. For prevention, the village government certainly has a role in preventing corruption with Law Enforcement Officers (APH). This is because the village is the object of the development implementing agency, not the subject of law enforcement, such as police institutions, prosecutor's offices, and so on. Meanwhile, in terms of law enforcement, villages do not have a special role. This is because those responsible for law enforcement efforts are agencies that have the subject to do so. Villages can only strive to prevent corruption. Because corruption can be prevented and eradicated if agencies in this country play a role, one of which is the village through planning, development that is bottom-up, such as; village deliberations and hamlet deliberations (whatever the direction of policy determination in the village must be held at the village level, this is one way to prevent corruption) it is transparency for the development activities to be carried out, So the public knows it. Carrying out physical and non-physical actions according to the plan, the activities carried out must be based on and in accordance with the initial planning. If completed, accountability will be carried out to the public (online announcements and/or through reports (LPJ billboards regarding incoming budgets/exits), budget transparency, and accountability) will be made.	In here, we must first be able to distinguish between prevention and enforcement. If it is for prevention, the village government certainly has a role in preventing corruption with Law Enforcement Officials (APH). This is because the village is the object of the development implementing agency, not the subject of law enforcement, such as the police, prosecutor's office, and so on. Meanwhile, in terms of law enforcement, villages do not have a special role. This is because those responsible for law enforcement efforts are agencies that have the subject to do so. Villages can only attempt to prevent corruption. Because corruption can be prevented and eradicated if agencies in this country play a role, one of which is the village through planning, bottom-up development, such as; village deliberations and hamlet deliberations (whatever the direction of determining policies in the village must be held at the village level, this is one way to prevent corruption) it is transparency for development activities to be carried out, so that the public knows about it. Conducting physical and non-physical actions according to the plan, the activities carried out must be based on and in accordance with the initial planning. If completed, there will be accountability to the public (announcement online/or through billboards regarding the incoming/outgoing budget) there is budget transparency, and an accountability report (LPJ) is made.
2. If there is collaboration between the village and the prosecutor's office to prevent and eradicate corruption, what concrete steps does the village government take?	The concrete steps that have been taken by the village are to carry out budget transparency and accountability to the public through the village website and social media. The village government in carrying out development must be in accordance with existing regulations, such as in the Regulation of the Minister of	A concrete step that has been taken by the village is to conduct budget transparency and accountability to the public through the village website and social media. The village government in carrying out development must be in accordance with existing regulations, such as in the Village Minister

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	Villages and the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs. This is to prevent acts of corruption, some of which are bottom-up, namely absorbing the needs of the community in any area, and top down, that the money that enters the village must be clear about what it is for (transparency). Siskedes (village financial system) is a village financial system that provides information to the public about activities and funds issued by the village, this is done so that every layer of agencies including the Prosecutor's Office can monitor the process of managing village finances because this includes a form of village collaboration with the Prosecutor's Office in preventing corruption. The village does not have the right to take action against those who are indicated by corruption, but village prevention efforts are carried out internally.	Regulation and the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation. This is to prevent acts of corruption, there is a bottom up nature to absorb the needs of the community in any area and top down that the money that enters the village the process of its use must be clear for what (transparency). Siskedes (village financial system) is a village financial system that provides information to the public about activities and funds spent by the village, this is done so that every layer of agencies including the AGO can monitor the village financial management process because this is a form of village collaboration with the AGO in preventing corruption. The village does not have the right to take action against indications of corruption, but the village's prevention efforts are carried out internally.
3. Do villages face challenges in implementing corruption prevention education in the community?	The challenge is to educate the community, residents have the right to be socially controlled (monitor and report) as an effort to educate the village and the public to work together in preventing corruption.	The challenge for community education is that citizens have the right to become social control (monitoring and reporting) as an effort to educate the village and the public to work together in preventing corruption.
4. In your personal opinion, how effective is this collaboration in reducing potential corruption?	The effectiveness of the collaboration between the village and the prosecutor's office, in this case the village and the prosecutor's office (APH) is not directly related, but the prosecutor's office has a direct right if there is an indication of budget misappropriation to take action against the village. The village has no direct relationship with the prosecutor's office, such as having to periodically report what is carried out because the village report is given directly to the regent. Collaborative efforts occur if the village organizes legal counseling by inviting resource persons from the prosecutor's office to educate the public on the extent of public understanding of corruption	
5. Does the effectiveness of the collaboration have a significant impact on the village community?	Good collaboration, then the output will definitely be good for the community in the village, this is because this form of collaboration is very beneficial for law enforcement and corruption prevention for the public (community). This will be reflected in the positive and negative impacts that will arise later. In the end, the people will feel it directly.	

Source: Secretary of Buninagara Village, Bandung Regency (Mr. Badi Munawir)

"The Collaborative Role of Village Government and Prosecutor's Office in Corruption Prevention: A Case Study of Buninagara Village, West Bandung District". The method used in this research is descriptive research with a qualitative approach by interviewing one of the informants who is closely related to the title of this research, namely the Village Secretary of Buninagara, Bandung Regency. This interview process focuses on the collaboration process of the village government, the law enforcement process in the village, and the village's approach to the public in preventing corruption.

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This research is titled "The Collaborative Role Of Village Government And Prosecutor's Office In Corruption Prevention: A Case Study Of Buninagara Village, West Bandung District". The method used in this study is a descriptive research of a qualitative approach by interviewing one of the informants who is closely related to the title of this research, namely the Secretary of Buninagara Village, Bandung Regency. This interview process focuses on the village government collaboration process, the law enforcement process in the village, and the village's approach to the public in preventing corruption.

Corruption is a crucial issue that can hinder development, create social injustice, and social inequality. At the village level, the government's role in corruption prevention efforts is crucial, especially in terms of budget transparency and accountability. Mr. Badi Munawir, Buninagara Village Secretary, emphasized that "It is important to distinguish between prevention and law enforcement". Village governments have duties and functions as objects in the implementation of development and have a great responsibility in preventing corruption. Through village and hamlet meetings, the public can be directly involved in decision-making, ensuring that every village development activity is based on a clear plan that meets the needs of the community and is mutually agreed upon.

Corruption is a crucial problem where these actions can hinder development, create social injustice, and social inequality. At the village level, the role of the government in corruption prevention efforts is very important, especially in terms of budget transparency and accountability. Mr. Badi Munawir, Secretary of Buninagara Village, emphasized that "It is important to distinguish between prevention and law enforcement". Village Government has duties and functions as objects in the implementation of development and has a great responsibility in preventing corruption. Through village and hamlet deliberations, the public can be directly involved in decision-making, this is done to ensure that every village development activity is based on a clear plan according to the needs of the community and agreed upon together.

After the activities are completed, the village government has the authority and responsibility to submit accountability reports to the public, either online or through physical media such as billboards, this is done as a form of accountability and transparency of the village budget to the public.

After the activity is completed, the village government has the authority and responsibility to submit accountability reports to the public, both online and through physical media such as billboards, this is done as a form of accountability and transparency of the village budget to the public.

Buninagara Village has implemented several activities to prevent corruption, including budget transparency through the website and social media, and ensuring that development is under existing regulations. The Village Financial System (Siskedes) also plays an important role in providing information related to village activities and finances, which facilitates supervision by authorities such as the prosecutor's office. However, there are challenges in preventing corruption in the village, especially in community education. The community should play an active role as a social control to monitor village activities, so that awareness of corruption prevention can arise automatically.

Buninagara Village has carried out several activities in an effort to prevent corruption, such as; budget transparency through *websites* and social media, and ensuring that development is in accordance with existing regulations. The Village Financial System (Siskeudes) also has an important role in providing information related to village activities and finances that facilitate supervision by authorities such as the prosecutor's office. However, there are challenges in efforts to prevent corruption in villages, especially in community education. The community should actively play a role as social control to monitor village activities, so that awareness of corruption prevention can emerge on its own.

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Collaboration between the village and the prosecutor's office plays an important role in corruption prevention efforts. Although the two agencies are not directly linked regularly, the village government can invite the prosecutor's office to provide legal counseling as an effort to increase public understanding of corruption and its prevention measures. Thus, a good collaboration between the village, the prosecutor's office, and the active participation of the community will have a positive impact on corruption prevention. This effort will be felt directly by the community because this collaboration is expected to create a more transparent and accountable environment between the village, the community, and the prosecutor's office.

Collaboration between villages and the prosecutor's office has an important role in efforts to prevent corruption. Although the two agencies are not directly related on a regular basis, the village government can invite the prosecutor's office to provide legal counseling as one of the efforts to increase public understanding of corruption and its prevention measures. Thus, good collaboration is collaboration between villages, prosecutors' offices, and active participation of the community, this will produce a positive impact on corruption prevention. This effort will be felt directly by the community, because with this collaboration, it is hoped that it will create a more transparent and accountable environment between the village, the community, and the prosecutor's office.

CONCLUSION

This research concluded that collaboration between the village government and law enforcement institutions—particularly the *Prosecutor's Office*—held strategic importance in preventing corruption at the village level. The village government's role as budget manager and executor of development needed to be balanced with strong accountability mechanisms, which were effectively supported through community participation in village deliberations. The implementation of the *Village Financial System (Siskeudes)* in Buninagara Village strengthened transparency and enabled public access to financial information, empowering both the community and law enforcement, especially prosecutors, to conduct supervision and provide legal guidance. However, collaboration between the *prosecutor's office* and village government remained largely informal and lacked structured, sustainable frameworks. Therefore, it was recommended that future research explore models of institutionalized collaboration, evaluate the effectiveness of integrated anti-corruption programs, and assess how legal capacity building among village officials could be scaled nationally. By doing so, future studies could contribute to designing governance systems that are more resilient, participatory, and corruption-resistant, not only at the village level but also as a framework adaptable to other decentralized government contexts.

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