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# **General Concept of Regional Development in Geography in Indonesia**

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### Abstract

This study aims to determine the general concept of regional development in geography in Indonesia. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method with a literature study. The result of this research is regional development. In the study of geography, the process of development and development of an area cannot be separated because geography is a science that studies the relationship between humans, ecological space, the area, and the changes that occur, as well as the consequences of the interrelationships between these variables things. The conclusion of this study is that regional development in Indonesia currently still requires well-coordinated spatial planning, planning is defined as determining goals that can be achieved after listening to the inhibiting factors in achieving these goals, selecting and deciding steps for these goals.

## Keywords

regional development; geography; general concept

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# I. Introduction

Development, in general, is an activity that is complementary and builds a goal by making changes to the maximum by interacting with regional context adjustments. Regional development is a comprehensive activity to improve the functions of social arrangement, land, education, cultural economy, and community welfare to promote an integrated area by maintaining gaps between regions and preserving the environment in a region (Sulistyorini, 2021). Regional development, in general, is always faced with various demands as well as the implications that accompany the development of the diversity of activity intensity. This is an indication of the dynamics of development that requires the availability of adequate infrastructure. Indonesia with its resources scattered in various locations is a valuable capital for national development, especially regional development (Siagian, 2011).

The economic condition of the population is a condition that describes human life that has economic score (Shah et al, 2020). Economic growth is still an important goal in a country's economy, especially for developing countries like Indonesia (Magdalena and Suhatman, 2020).

According to Law Number 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning, (UU 26/2007) an area is a space that is a geographical unit and all related elements, whose boundaries and systems are determined based on administrative and/or functional aspects. While the area is an area that has the main function of protection or cultivation. Economic development activities are based on cultivation areas. In addition, there are other related laws such as Law 17/2003 on State Finance, Law 25/2004 on the National Development Planning System, Law 32/2004 on Regional Government, and Law 33/2004 on Fiscal Balance Between Government and Regional Government. The four laws share a common vision of national development, namely: (1) based on economic, efficient, effective, and transparent

principles; (2) outcome-oriented performance-based; (3) zoning medium-term expenditures; (4) area dimension; (5) implemented within the framework of regional autonomy; (6) designed to accommodate political approaches, top-down policy and bottom-up planning; and (7) arranged in a technocratic manner and based on spatial planning.

The development of an area is motivated by various aspects of life, these factors will bring changes to the spatial form in the area concerned, both physically as a place for human activities in it. The development of land use and the unequal distribution of regional infrastructure requires an optimal arrangement by adjusting between demand and supply in the use of space the potential for private investment to participate in infrastructure development encourages the government to accelerate infrastructure development (Khaerudin, 2007).

The most recent development paradigm has shown that, first, development activities should be aimed and carried out by local communities to improve community welfare in a sustainable manner which requires adjustments to the capacity and environmental conditions of their natural resources. Meanwhile, the role of the government is increasingly shifting more as a development facilitator, provider of public infrastructure, and designing policies and incentive structures towards increasing the productivity of economic actors (Oktaviana et al., 2011). Thus, the current and future development approach is economic development based on local communities (Local Community-Based Economy). The importance of reorienting regional development based on local communities has become increasingly prominent due to the occurrence of various government failures whose impact is often more severe than market failure which has often been used as a reason for public intervention by the government (Rustiadi, 2003). According to the current development paradigm, the role of government needs to be increasingly limited to areas where other economic actors (private sector and community organizations) have no incentive to do so. The role of the government should be increasingly encouraged as an institution that facilitates communication and transfer of information and technology that bridges information between developed and relatively underdeveloped regions (Harun, 2010).

Second, is the domestic resource-based development approach (Domestic Resource-Based Economy). The current reorientation of the development approach requires the application of a regional development approach based on domestic resources (Priadi, n.d.). Domestic resources in question include resources in a broad sense including physicalnatural resources, human resources, artificial resources, and social resources. Thus, a development planning approach is needed that is truly based on the potential of domestic nature, local human resources, and the results of local development so far, including the availability of existing domestic physical and social infrastructure (institutions) (Budianta, 2010). This approach requires identifying the basic sectors which will constitute the driving forces of regional economic activity. For this reason, it is necessary to evaluate regional resources and compare them with the surrounding areas so that comparative and competitive advantages of the region can be identified. Basically, efforts to utilize and develop domestic resources must pay attention to the ecological, technological, economic, and social aspects of the region. Thus, it is hoped that there will be harmony in steps between regional economic actors (Julianto & Jumario, 2017).

The implementation of development should not be oriented towards high economic growth because it is often not in line with efforts to reduce the number of people still living below the poverty line. Therefore, the success of the development is not only measured by the level of economic growth but also by the success of efforts to improve the distribution of people's income and reduce the poor in the community (Fathurohman et al., 2018).

Development activities are basically carried out with the aim of improving the welfare of people's lives evenly. Judging from the development implementation process, the development effort is basically in the form of increasing the benefits of resources and increasing the fulfillment of needs while still paying attention to environmental sustainability (Sulistyorini, 2021). The product of human activities is endeavored to have a positive influence on an area which is manifested in the form of increasing the areas in it, both in terms of increasing quality, area, and quantity. The increase in these areas contributes to the development of the region so the process of increasing the area is basically a description of the development process of a region (Syafa'at et al., 2016). Regional development can be interpreted as an effort to organize space and utilize existing resources optimally in order to improve the welfare of people's lives.

The purpose of regional development is the development of the region itself in the sense that the condition of the region becomes better in all sectors including the service sector, industry, and agriculture (animal husbandry), at least in terms of the management of agricultural products and public revenues or in terms of consumption expenditure, investment, and exports import (Putri, 2018). Furthermore, it is hoped that economic activities in the region will open up more job opportunities so that equality is achieved in all areas of regional life (cities and villages). In addition, the purpose of regional development is that the activities of the city and its surrounding areas are balanced and develop in their function as a place of service for the citizens of the city and the surrounding area (Ariyanti & Santoso, 2013). Regional development must be able to support the hinterland and not become a parasite in absorbing the potential of the back area. The relationship between the regional development center and the region behind it must be synergistic. In order to realize these ideal conditions, a strategy for the development of infrastructure and facilities that is supportive of economic growth, equitable development, increased political stability, and community welfare has been formulated (Khomenie & Umilia, 2013).

## **II. Research Method**

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach as an effort to understand the various concepts found in the research process, using content analysis techniques and library research. The content analysis technique is a research method used to find out the conclusions of a text. Or in other words, content analysis is a research method that seeks to reveal the author's manifested and latent ideas. While library research in this study uses the types and sources of secondary data obtained from research results, articles, and reference books that discuss topics related to the research theme (Yaniawati, 2020). This research produces information in the form of notes and descriptive data contained in the text under study (Mantra, 2008) (Raco, 2018).

As a library research, there are two kinds of data sources that will be explained, namely:

1. Primary Sources

Primary sources are the main data sources that are directly collected by researchers from the object of research, namely books, articles, which are the objects in this study.

2. Secondary Source

Is an additional data source that according to the researcher supports the main data, namely books or articles that act as supporters of the primary book or article to strengthen the concepts in the primary book or article.

The method used to collect research data in library research is to select, search, present, and analyze library data. This research institute is looking for library materials whose substance requires philosophical and theoretical processing. The literature search here is a literature study without empirical verification (Muhadjir, 1998). The data presented is data in the form of words that need to be processed to be concise and systematic.

This study using data analysis techniques in the form of content analysis (content analysis). The analysis is a scientific analysis of the message content of a data (Muhadjir, 1998). According to Zed (2004), analysis is a simple attempt at how research data are developed and processed for a simple framework. The data that has been collected is then analyzed to obtain information, but first, the data is selected on the basis of its reliability (Mantra, 2008). The purpose of this data analysis is to find the truth of the data that has been obtained so that conclusions can be drawn from the results of the research that has been done. In this study, researchers used 3 stages, namely: data reduction, data display, data verification, and conclusion drawing

## **III. Results and Discussion**

The concept of regional development in Indonesia was born from an interactive process that combines the basics of theoretical understanding with practical experiences as a form of dynamic application. The concept of regional development in Indonesia is an amalgamation of various theories and models that are always evolving that have been tested and applied.

In the history of its development, the dismantling of the concept of regional development in Indonesia has several theoretical foundations that have colored its existence. The first is Walter Isard a pioneer of regional science who studies the cause and effect relationship of the main factors forming regional space, namely physical, socioeconomic, and cultural factors. The second is Hirschmann (1950s era) who gave rise to the theory of polarization effect and trickle-down effect with the argument that the development of a region does not occur simultaneously (unbalanced development). The third is Myrdal (1950s era) with a theory that explains the relationship between the developed region and the backward region by using the terms backwash effect and spread ash effect. Fourth, Freadmann (the 1960s) emphasized the formation of a hierarchy in order to facilitate the development of a development system which became known as the growth center theory. The fifth is Douglass (70s era) who introduced the birth of the ruralurban linkages model in regional development. The existence of the theoretical basis and concept of regional development above is then enriched with ideas born from the thoughts of the nation's sons. Among them is Sutami (era the 1970s) with the idea that intensive infrastructure development to support the utilization of natural resource potential will be able to accelerate regional development.

Conceptually, the notion of regional development can be formulated as a series of efforts to realize integration in the use of various resources, glue and balance national development and national territorial integrity, increase harmony between regions, integration between development sectors through the process of spatial planning in the context of achieving sustainable development goals in an integrated manner NKRI. Based on the above understanding, development should not only be carried out to fulfill partial sectoral goals but more than that, development should be carried out to meet the objectives of regional development that are comprehensive and holistic by considering the harmony between various resources as the main elements forming space (natural resources),

artificial, human and activity systems), which are supported by the legal system and the institutional system that surrounds it.

According to Lay (1993: 53) indicators that affect regional development are the level of population welfare, quality of education, distribution patterns, and investment concentration as well as the availability of infrastructure. So based on Lay's statement above, it can be concluded that the indicators that influence regional development are divided into a. Physical; Availability of socio-economic facilities such as health, education, and economic facilities. b. Economics; The economic capacity of the population is seen from the level of family welfare in each region. c. Social; Number of population and quality of the population.

Regional development in the study of geography, the process of development and development of an area cannot be separated because geography is a science that studies the relationship between humans, ecological space, the area, the changes that occur, and the consequences of the links between these various things. Development Geography is a study that pays attention to geographical aspects in supporting the development and regional development (Ramli et al., 2017). Aspects in development include Physical Aspects, Human/Social Aspects, Biotic Aspects, Abstract Aspects, all of which are studies in Geography which are also aspects contained in the study of Geography. Regional development and regional development are carried out in Indonesia with the aim of achieving justice for all people in Indonesia (HARIYANTO, 2007). The concept of developing a national territory with more tangible variables, criteria, and dimensions, it is necessary to have knowledge of what is called the National Regional Development Structure, which provides an overview of (Okgarianda et al., 2017):

- a. Distribution of SWP-SWP in Region-National;
- b. The orientation and level of development of each SWP;
- c. Dependency relationship between SWP.

The purpose of realizing the concept of regional development in Indonesia consists of three main processes, namely (Krusen et al., 2021):

- 1. The process of regional spatial planning (RT/RW) aims for humans to interact with the environment in a balanced way to achieve community welfare;
- 2. The process of utilizing the environment with the aim of realizing the operational planning of the spatial plan/ implementation of the development itself;
- 3. The process of controlling the use of space which aims to bring order to the implementation of development so that it remains in accordance with the regional arrangement.

There are several similarities in the concept of regional development in Indonesia, namely (Kurniadi, 2009):

- a) Potential areas as development centers;
- b) Prioritizing competitive advantage;
- c) Developed areas as the center of development.

## **IV. Conclusion**

Regional development is described as an effort to build and develop an area based on a spatial (spatial) approach by considering socio-cultural, economic, physical, and institutional aspects in a planning framework. The entire allocation of space utilization is spread out according to the potential and relative value of the locations that support it. The development of an area will continue to occur in line with the development of population, socio-economic activities, and accompanying infrastructure.

Regional development in Indonesia currently still requires well-coordinated spatial planning, planning is defined as deciding a destination that can be reached after listening to the limiting factors in reaching that goal, selecting and deciding the steps for that goal. With good planning, of course, the development process will match the planning so that later the destinations that have been decided can be perfectly affordable.

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