



Community Participation in Local Development: Insights from Lakkang Village, Makassar

Firdaus^{1*}

Universitas Muhammadiyah
Makassar, Indonesia

Didiet Haryadi Hakim²

Universitas Negeri Gorontalo,
Indonesia

Syahril Syarifuddin³

PT. Geo Inti Spasial,
Indonesia

***Corresponding author:**

Firdaus, Universitas Muhammadiyah
Makassar, Indonesia.

✉ firdaus.yusuf@unismuh.ac.id

Article Info:

Article history:

Received: March 28, 2026

Revised: May 21, 2026

Accepted: June 06, 2026

Keywords:

Community Participation; Village
Development; Community
Awareness; Government
Leadership; Lakkang Village.

Abstract

Background: Regional development requires not only government leadership but also active community involvement, both as subjects and beneficiaries. Lakkang Village, Makassar City a geographically isolated island community accessible only by waterway has 1,260 residents, with 55 underprivileged households and an average income of IDR 1,500,000/month, making the study of participation dynamics particularly urgent.

Objective: This study aims to analyze the forms and levels of community participation in development in Lakkang Village, Makassar City using Chapin's participatory framework, and to identify the internal and external factors affecting this participation.

Methods: A descriptive quantitative approach was employed with a single-variable design. A sample of 94 respondents was determined using Slovin's formula ($e = 10\%$), representing 7.5% of the population, and selected via simple random sampling. Data were analyzed using weighted frequency tables and mean score calculations with interval-based classification.

Results: Using a 4-point scale (Low: 1.00–1.75; Moderate-Low: 1.76–2.50; Moderate-High: 2.51–3.25; High: 3.26–4.00), overall participation fell within the moderate category (mean score: 2.25). Physical/energy participation scored highest (2.50), followed by material contributions (2.22) and ideas/thoughts (2.17), while monetary contributions were lowest (1.95, low category). Labor-dominant participation reflects structural economic constraints (90.42% of respondents earn below the provincial minimum wage) rather than low civic awareness. Key factors include internal personal awareness (79.79% of respondents) and external government leadership (score: 2.56).

Conclusion: Strengthening participation requires context-sensitive strategies: diversifying participation mechanisms for low-income residents (e.g., labor-for-service programs).

To cite this article: Firdaus, Hakim, D. H., & Syarifuddin, S. (2026). Community Participation in Local Development: Insights from Lakkang Village, Makassar. *Equivalent: Jurnal Ilmiah Sosial Teknik*, 8(2), 696-712. <https://doi.org/10.59261/jequi.v8i2.309>

INTRODUCTION

The Indonesian Constitution's preamble emphasizes development as the primary means for a nation to improve its quality of life. According to the country's founding principles, achieving these developmental goals necessitates the active cooperation and involvement of every citizen (Brata et al., 2022; Hermansyah, 2021). Thus, community participation plays an important role in encouraging the development process (Akbar et al., 2018; Rajak et al., 2024).

Empirical studies consistently affirm this importance, Handoko et al. (2023) demonstrated that community participation significantly improves development sustainability in isolated coastal villages in Eastern Indonesia, while Rohman Kusmayad et al. (2024) found that participatory governance yields higher satisfaction and project continuity in rural Bali. These findings underscore the need for systematic analysis of participation dynamics in geographically constrained communities.

Participation refers to the involvement of individuals or community groups in the development process, both through expressions of opinion and through activities that contribute input such as ideas, energy, time, expertise, and capital (Ariska et al., 2025; sumaryadiyadi, 2005; Tindaon & Sembiring, 2026). This conceptual framework must be adopted by all stakeholders involved in planning village development. There is an observable disparity between top-down government development approaches and the community's actual needs. Addressing this requires recognizing that the village planning process is inseparable from community participation.

Increasing community engagement in regional development requires the government to demonstrate tangible progress. Since communities assess the value of any initiative by its real impact, government actions must produce visible benefits that the public can recognize. On this basis, it is important to involve the community and stakeholders in all thematic village program activities to ensure that development objectives are achieved in practice rather than remaining abstract concepts or ideas (khikmawanto, 2022).

Empirical evidence supports this claim, Sreirejeki and Khairurrisqo (2025) found that communicative and culturally aligned government leadership significantly mediates community participation levels in Indonesian villages, with responsive leaders achieving participation scores 30–40% higher than non-responsive counterparts. State that the development model currently being implemented is an empowerment model that emphasizes community participation. This paradigm shifts the role of the government from a service provider to a facilitator, positioning the community as the fundamental agent of development. By granting the public greater autonomy and trust, the government enables individuals to maximize their potential within their environment. Consequently, development is reclaimed by society, ensuring that the community functions as the primary driver of development and a key determinant of successful outcomes.

Community participation in development serves as a clear expression of public awareness, concern, and accountability regarding the local environment. Through this engagement, citizens recognize that progress is not solely the responsibility of government officials or planners. Instead, it requires the active contribution of all community members to improve their standard of living. Participation can take many forms, such as financial contributions, food donations, manual labor, or creative input, depending on individuals' capacity. Because of this, active involvement is considered a crucial factor in a project's success. This perspective is well grounded, as development is intended to benefit the people; therefore, their direct inclusion is both necessary and appropriate (Easterly, 2007; Sondarjee & Andrews, 2022).

To achieve development success, all planning, implementation, and evaluation programs must involve the community, as they are the ones who understand local problems and needs in order to develop their area and who will later utilize and assess the success of development initiatives. (Tjokroamidjojo, 1977; Yulianti et al., 2025) concludes that national development is: (1) a process of development in various fields of life, including social, economic, political, and others; (2) a process of social change toward a better, more advanced, and more just society; and (3) a development process from, by, and for the community, emphasizing active community participation. Adisasmita (2006) states that community participation is also a form of community empowerment, involving participation in the planning and implementation of development programs or projects, and represents the actualization of the community's willingness to contribute and sacrifice for development implementation (Bahri & Kurniati, 2025).

In view of these principles, the development of Lakkang Village in Makassar City relies heavily on community engagement to ensure the success of various programs. This involvement fosters local initiatives, self-reliance, and the traditional spirit of mutual cooperation. Consequently, it is vital to nurture and enhance public awareness so that participation becomes a

natural and spontaneous responsibility for every resident. In Lakkang Village, several factors hinder full community participation. The government must prioritize clear, two-way communication to encourage residents to get involved. By fostering this connection, the state can influence public behavior and secure the support needed for progress. This highlights the government's essential role in strengthening community engagement to achieve optimal development outcomes.

To boost community participation, development must prioritize justice and the equitable distribution of resources. It is essential that projects align with the actual needs and interests of the communities they serve. In Lakkang Village, Makassar City, this approach is reflected in the steady annual improvement of public infrastructure, including roads, clean water access, and educational facilities. The development of ecotourism in Lakkang Village illustrates how community involvement unfolds throughout the entire process, from planning to implementation and evaluation. However, no prior empirical study has systematically examined participation dynamics in Lakkang Village an isolated island community where geographic barriers, low income levels, and limited transportation access create unique structural constraints on participation forms and levels.

In the context of development, according to [Adisasmita \(2006\)](#) and [Bahri and Kurniati, \(2025\)](#) community participation is the involvement of community members in development activities, including planning and implementation of development programs or projects carried out in local communities. Meanwhile, public participation, according to [Adi \(2007\)](#) refers to the involvement of the community in the process of identifying problems and potentials within the community, selecting and deciding on alternative solutions to address those problems, implementing efforts to overcome existing issues and develop local potentials, and evaluating the changes that occur ([Lestari & Santoso, 2025](#)).

These definitions converge on a common premise: participation is not merely attendance but active, purposeful engagement across planning, implementation, and evaluation. The distinction between [Adisasmita \(2006\)](#) program-level focus and [Adi \(2007\)](#) problem-identification approach reflects different scopes of participation, both of which are relevant to the Lakkang Village context ([Bahri & Kurniati, 2025](#)). Critically, participation in isolated communities with low socioeconomic capacity tends to manifest more strongly through physical and deliberative forms than through financial contributions ([Hambali, 2026](#)).

Community participation, or citizen participation, is a process in which citizens, as individuals as well as social groups and organizations, participate in influencing the planning, implementation, and monitoring of policies that directly affect their lives ([Sumarto, 2025](#)). [Conyers \(1982\)](#) and [Sondarjee and Andrews \(2022\)](#) stated that there are three main reasons why community participation is highly important, including: (1) active participation is a key tool for uncovering the unique conditions and perspectives of a local area. Using this information is a prerequisite for success; otherwise, development programs may lack the necessary context and risk failure, (2) public confidence in a development initiative increases significantly when citizens are integrated into the initial design and planning phases. This involvement provides them with a comprehensive understanding of the project, fostering a strong sense of ownership and long-term commitment, (3) participation in the progress of one's own society is often viewed as a core element of democracy. From this perspective, it is essential for community members to be included in development processes that directly affect their local environment. (4) Recent scholarship reinforces these classical frameworks. [Rohman Kusmayad et al. \(2024\)](#) found that community participation is positively correlated with development sustainability in rural Bali. [Syifana et al. \(2026\)](#) confirmed that internal civic motivation is a stronger predictor of participation than external government incentives in Indonesian villages. [Hambali \(2026\)](#) established that participatory governance significantly reduces implementation failures in village-level programs.

Building on these theoretical foundations, the operational principles governing participatory processes as articulated in DFID's Guidelines for the Implementation of the Participatory Approach move beyond procedural rules to reflect deeper normative commitments regarding power, knowledge, and collective agency in development practice ([Retraubun et al., 2025; Sumampouw, 2004](#)).

There are two main forms of community participation in development projects: visible or material contributions, and non-material contributions that are intangible in nature. Gordon W. Allport in [Maghfirah \(2025\)](#) and [Sastropetro \(1986\)](#) states: "A person who participates actually experiences ego involvement which is more than involvement in work or task alone; by his involvement, he means the involvement of his thoughts and feelings." Based on this principle, participation consists of three key components. First, it requires deep psychological and emotional commitment beyond physical presence. Second, it involves voluntary contribution toward collective goals driven by genuine willingness. Third, it includes a sense of accountability as a reflection of community membership.

Tangible participation includes financial or material contributions such as money and property. In contrast, intangible participation includes intellectual input, decision-making involvement, and representative action. Furthermore, as noted by Chapin [Abe \(2002\)](#) and [Lestari and Santoso \(2025\)](#) forms of community participation include: (1) financial participation, which serves as a mechanism to fund initiatives intended for community benefit, (2) intellectual participation, which involves providing ideas, expertise, and specialized knowledge that support both planning and implementation, and (3) participation in decision-making, where individuals engage in group discussions to determine collective priorities. Representative participation involves delegating authority to selected individuals who represent community interests in formal structures.

According to Dorodjati in [Slamet \(2003\)](#) and [Susanto et al. \(2025\)](#) participation is influenced by three main supporting factors: (1) willingness; (2) ability; and (3) opportunity to participate. Watson in [Hafiz et al. \(2026\)](#) and [Soetomo \(2006\)](#) also notes several barriers to participation, including those rooted in individual dependency. Community reliance on government authorities for development implementation can hinder active engagement and suppress local initiative. These inhibiting elements are generally categorized into internal and external factors.

Analytically, participation forms can be ranked by socioeconomic accessibility: physical labor requires time and energy, making it widely accessible; intellectual participation requires educational confidence; and financial contributions require economic capacity. In low-income communities such as Lakkang Village, this hierarchy explains the predominance of physical participation over financial forms ([Handoko et al., 2023](#)).

[Slamet \(2003\)](#) and [Susanto et al. \(2025\)](#) states that internal factors originate from within the community, including individuals and group dynamics. Individual behavior is influenced by demographic characteristics such as age, occupation, and income level. Research shows that education level, employment type, and duration of community membership significantly affect participation in local development activities.

According to [Ariska et al. \(2025\)](#) and [Sunarti \(2003\)](#) external factors include stakeholders such as local government officials, community or customary leaders, and consultants or facilitators. Key actors in development projects often hold significant authority, and project success frequently depends on their leadership and support. Participation in decision-making is essential because successful development requires collective support, fostering community ownership and responsibility ([Harun & Ardianto, 2011](#); [Hasan et al., 2023](#)).

[Srirejeki and Khairurrizqo \(2025\)](#) further demonstrate that local government leadership style mediates the relationship between participation potential and actual engagement, with communicative and transparent leadership associated with higher participation levels in Indonesian rural development contexts.

Based on participation systems and mechanisms, Cohen and Uphoff in [Riva'i and Ahwa, \(2016\)](#) and [Sari et al. \(2025\)](#) identify four stages of participation: (1) Decision-making participation involves giving communities a voice in policy and planning. Residents are invited to evaluate programs to ensure alignment with local needs, enabling democratic prioritization of development goals. (2) Implementation participation refers to community involvement in project execution. This may include contributions of time, labor, funds, or materials, and may be continuous or occasional, direct or indirect. (3) Benefit participation focuses on the utilization and maintenance of development outcomes. Success is reflected in improved living standards and

community commitment to sustaining results. (4) Evaluation participation involves community engagement in monitoring and assessing program outcomes, including providing feedback, identifying weaknesses, and expressing concerns when results are unsatisfactory.

This study addresses that gap by analyzing: (1) the forms and levels of community participation across four dimensions ideas/ thoughts, monetary contributions, material donations, and physical labor; and (2) internal and external factors shaping participation, applying Chapin's participatory framework as the analytical lens. These findings contribute to understanding participation patterns in geographically isolated, low-income communities a context that remains underrepresented in existing literature.

METHOD

This study employed a descriptive quantitative research design to systematically describe and measure community participation levels in Lakkang Village. The research was conducted from January to March 2025 in Lakkang Village, Tallo District, Makassar City. The unit of analysis was individual community members serving as household representatives. The single-variable scope enabled a focused description of participation characteristics across four operationalized dimensions (ideas/ thoughts, monetary contributions, material donations, and physical energy), each measured on a 4-point weighted Likert scale (1 = Never/Inactive; 2 = Rarely/Less Active; 3 = Often/Active; 4 = Very Often/Very Active). Participation levels were classified using the interval formula $[(4-1)/4 = 0.75]$: Low (1.00–1.75), Moderate-Low (1.76–2.50), Moderate-High (2.51–3.25), and High (3.26–4.00).

Data were collected through: (1) structured questionnaires selected because they efficiently captured self-reported behavior across a large sample while enabling standardized scoring; and (2) direct field observations to triangulate and validate questionnaire responses against observed community activities. The instrument was validated by two academic experts for content validity, ensuring that each item accurately reflected the theoretical construct of participation. Internal consistency was tested using Cronbach's Alpha ($\alpha = 0.78$), confirming adequate reliability. Ethical considerations were addressed through voluntary participation, confidentiality assurance, and informed consent obtained from all respondents prior to data collection. For the analysis, weighted frequency distribution tables were employed a method chosen for its alignment with the single-variable descriptive design, enabling clear visualization of participation distributions and direct calculation of weighted average scores for category classification.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Location Characteristics

Geographically, Lakkang Village is one of 15 villages in Tallo District, Makassar City. This village is located in a delta formed from the Tallo River deposits. The area of Lakkang Village is 1.15 km², with an altitude of less than 500 meters above sea level. Lakkang Island is flanked by three rivers, namely the Tallo River, the Pampang River, and the river that flows through the Hasanuddin University area. These three rivers render Lakkang Island geographically isolated from the Makassar urban center. This isolation is directly relevant to participation dynamics: residents face significant logistical constraints in procuring materials for development contributions, and limited connectivity reduces residents' exposure to urban civic norms. Access is via three piers: the Hasanuddin University campus pier, the Ir. Sutami Toll Road pier, and the Pampang Village pier.

Based on data from the Indonesia Statistics (BPS) Makassar City 2024, the number of residents in Lakkang Village, based on the latest data, is 1,260 people with a total of 329 households. The population density is 1,096 per km². The number of people by gender is 634 males and 626 females, with a sex ratio of 101.28. In- and out-migration in Lakkang Island is relatively low compared to the other 14 villages in Tallo District, at around two people per year in 2024. There are still 55 heads of households who are classified in the underprivileged category. Generally, people who live in this area work as fishermen. Some others work as entrepreneurs, farmers, and employees in Makassar City.

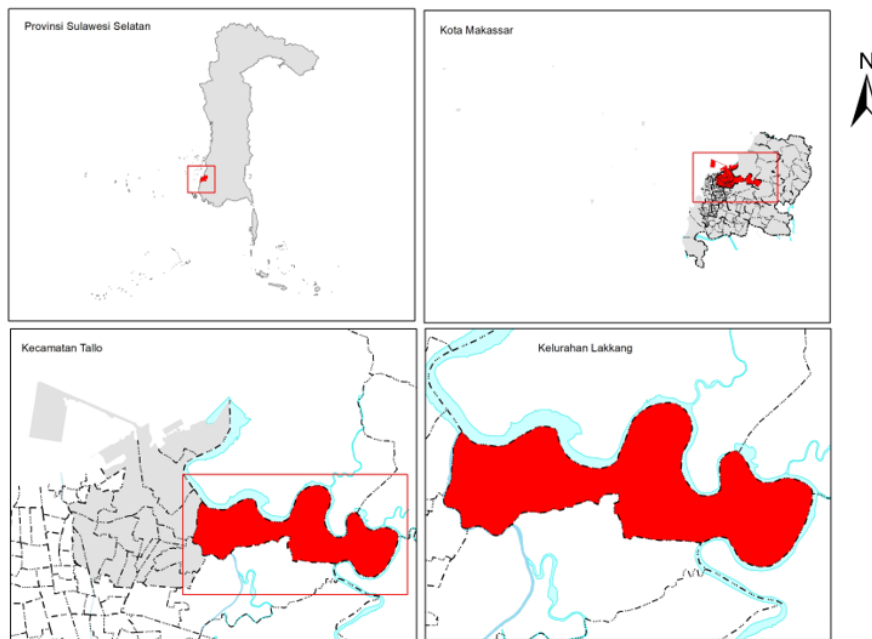


Figure 1. Orientation Map of Lakkang Village in Makassar City Area
Source: Reseach Data

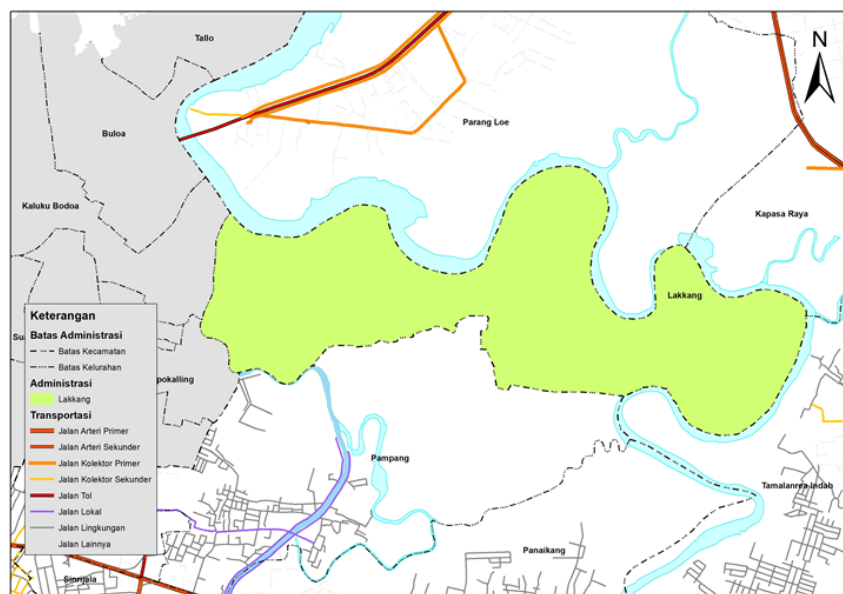


Figure 2. Map of Lakkang Village Administration
Source: Reseach Data

In terms of accessibility, the only transportation that connects Lakkang with Makassar City is via waterways. There are three piers that are commonly used by the local community and visitors, namely the Monkey Pier at Hasanuddin University, the pier near the Reformasi Toll Road, and the pier in Pampang Village. It costs about 10,000 to 15,000 rupiah to use the crossing boat. The boat can also carry vehicles such as motorbikes and bicycles across, at a cost of 5,000 rupiah per vehicle. The facilities used for the crossing are quite unique. The boat used is known as *pincara*, a traditional raft made by combining two boats into a single larger vessel.

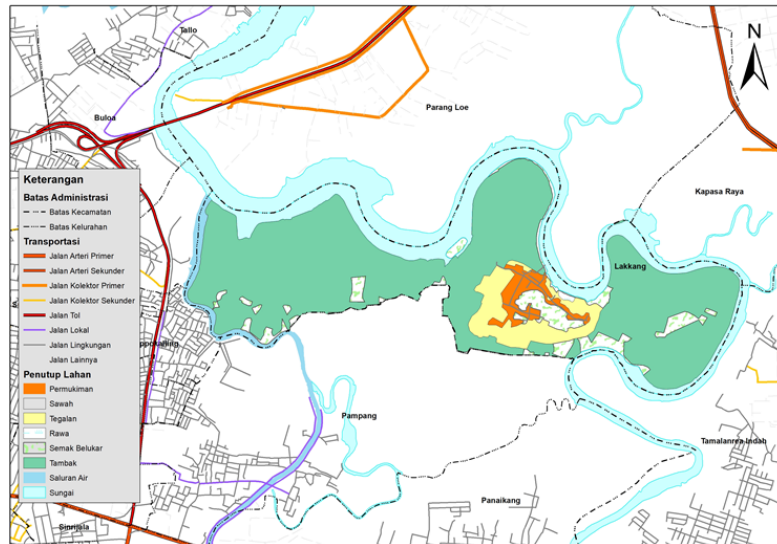


Figure 3. Land Use Map of Lakkang Village

Source: Reseach Data

Respondent Characteristics

The study applied a random sampling technique to identify 94 respondents, representing a 7.5% sample of the Lakkang Village population. The selected group reflects a variety of demographic characteristics, including differences in age, education, income, and marital status. The specific age distribution of these participants is illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1. Characteristics of Respondents by Age in Lakkang Village

Age	Frequency	Percentage
<29	13	13.83
30-39	25	26.60
40-49	28	29.79
50-59	22	23.40
>60	6	6.38
Quantity	94	100

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Respondent characteristics based on age show an average of 40 years, with the lowest age recorded at 25 years and the highest at 65 years. The data indicate that, out of the 94 respondents sampled in this study, all fall within the productive age group. At this stage of life, it is expected that respondents' answers or assessments in the questionnaires are consistent with actual conditions experienced or currently ongoing regarding community participation in improving development in Lakkang Village, Makassar.

Data from Table 1 show that 81 participants are aged between 30 and 59 years or older, meaning that 86.17% of the total sample represents the productive age group. This demographic concentration is a significant aspect of the study population. The next set of data, presented in Table 2, categorizes respondents according to their marital status.

Table 2. Characteristics of Respondents Based on Marital Status in Lakkang Village

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
Single	11	11.70
Married	83	88.30
Widowed/Widowed	0	0.00
Number	94	100

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Based on Table 2, marital status data show that out of 94 respondents, 83 individuals (88.30%) are married, while 11 individuals (11.70%) are unmarried. This reflects a productive-age community profile with family responsibilities a demographic associated with higher motivation for participation, as married individuals tend to have stronger stakes in local development outcomes affecting household welfare (Syifana et al., 2026). Furthermore, married respondents are more likely to be established community members with longer residency and stronger social networks that facilitate participation. Additionally, the characteristics of respondents based on education level can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3. Characteristics of Respondents Based on Education Level in Lakkang Village

Education Level	Frequency	Percentage
Not Completed Elementary School	6	6.38
Elementary School Completed	26	27.66
Junior High School Completed	16	17.02
High School Completed	41	43.62
Bachelor's Degree	4	4.26
Master's Degree/Other	1	1.06
Total	94	100

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Respondents' education level, based on Table 3, varies greatly, ranging from those who did not complete elementary school to those holding bachelor's degrees. The highest frequency of respondents is found among high school graduates, with 41 individuals, while the lowest frequencies are observed among respondents with master's and bachelor's degree qualifications, each accounting for 5 individuals. The level of education significantly influences the quality of development participation: higher educational attainment is associated with a greater capacity for intellectual participation (e.g., ideas and opinions) and more informed decision-making engagement. Slamet (2003) identifies educational level as a key internal factor shaping participation capacity (Susanto et al., 2025), while Rohman Kusmayad et al. (2024) empirically confirm that communities with higher average education levels tend to generate more structured and actionable development proposals. The predominance of high school graduates in this sample (43.62%) suggests a moderate but somewhat constrained capacity for intellectual participation. Subsequently, the respondents' conditions are reviewed in terms of income, in Table 4.

Table 4. Characteristics of Respondents Based on Income Level in Lakkang Village

Income	Frequency	Percentage
<1000.000	43	45.74
1,000,000–3,000,000	42	44.68
3,000,000–8,000,000	9	9.57
>8000.000	0	0.00
Quantity	94	100

Source: Primary Data (2025)

The characteristics of respondents based on income, as shown in Table 4, indicate an average monthly income of IDR 1,500,000. Respondents with incomes of less than IDR 1,000,000 numbered 43 people, which has not reached the minimum wage. Meanwhile, respondents with incomes in the range of IDR 1,000,000 to IDR 3,000,000 numbered 42 people; however, they are still below the Provincial Minimum Wage (UMP) standard for South Sulawesi Province in 2025, which is IDR 3,657,527 per month. In addition, 9 respondents earn incomes in the range of IDR 3,000,000 to IDR 8,000,000 and have reached or exceeded the Provincial Minimum Wage (UMP). Income level also greatly affects the level of participation in monetary donations.

Discussion

Level of Community Participation in the Development of Lakkang Village, Makassar City

Successful development requires community participation because residents are an essential part of progress toward social prosperity. Responsibility for these outcomes is shared between the government and the people rather than belonging to one side alone. For development targets to be met, the community must be consciously involved, and the government must demonstrate the wisdom to guide this process effectively.

The success of any ongoing project depends on how much the community becomes involved at different stages, such as: a. being the catalyst that initiates change; b. listening to and reflecting on new information; c. helping to plan what needs to be done; d. carrying out the actual work to implement it; e. using and expanding the benefits of the project; and f. evaluating the outcomes to determine whether the development has been successful.



Figure 3. Visualization of Questionnaire Data Collection
Source: Research Data

To achieve the best results in development, the people of Lakkang Village need to be aware of their own resources and real-life situations. According to the author's classification, there are four ideal ways for this community to get involved: by sharing thoughts and suggestions, providing funds, donating materials, or contributing their physical labor to the work.

Non-Physical Participation

Achieving development targets depends entirely on active public participation. The ideal outcome of this engagement is a community that is better prepared to help itself, creating a balanced process in which prosperity is distributed fairly. Experience shows that community members will remain involved in long-term efforts only if they feel they have a genuine voice in defining the goals and activities being implemented.

An essential aspect of participation is the collective willingness to support program success based on individual capabilities, without requiring the sacrifice of personal interests. In this context, nonphysical participation is foundational, particularly during the planning and decision-making phases. This type of engagement serves as a primary indicator of overall participation levels, as a greater capacity for self-determination directly correlates with more robust involvement in development.

The ultimate form and success of any development initiative are inextricably linked to the decision-making process. At various stages, the inclusion of community perspectives is vital, as local ideas and insights provide valuable input for consideration. This nonphysical participation occurs when residents contribute their intellectual input through formal meetings, written suggestions, or structured responses to ongoing projects.

Intellectual contributions and the exchange of ideas can be effectively facilitated through established formal institutions. To evaluate the level of nonphysical participation in Lakkang Village, this study examines how frequently residents attend meetings and how actively they offer opinions or suggestions during these sessions. The following data illustrates the responsiveness of participants in expressing their thoughts throughout the development process.

Table 5. Participation in the Form of Ideas in Lakkang Village

Respondents	Weight Value	Frequency	Total Score	%
Active	4	25	100	49.02
Very Active	3	9	27	13.24
Less Active	2	17	34	16.67
Inactive	1	43	43	21.08
Total		94	204	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Table 5 shows the participation of respondents in providing their ideas/thoughts for development in Lakkang Village. Table 5 orders the categories from highest to lowest engagement (Very Active → Active → Less Active → Inactive) for analytical clarity. Respondents categorized as Very Active numbered 25 (49.02% of weighted score proportion). This is supported by the number of scores achieved, which is 2.17, indicating the medium category, based on the following average scores:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F & \times \text{Weight Value} & = \text{Total Score} \\
 25 & \times 4 & = 100, \text{ and Beyond} \\
 \text{Total Village Scores} & & = \text{Average Score} \\
 \text{Number of Respondents} & & \\
 204 & & = 2,17
 \end{aligned}$$

The classification categories are based on the interval scale formula: Interval = (Maximum - Minimum) / Number of Categories = (4 - 1) / 4 = 0.75. This yields the following categories: Low (1.00-1.75), Moderate-Low (1.76-2.50), Moderate-High (2.51-3.25), and High (3.26-4.00). The ideas/thoughts score of 2.17 therefore falls within the Moderate-Low category, indicating that, while residents engage intellectually in development, their involvement remains infrequent and capacity-constrained.

Based on direct interviews with several respondents, it is known that some respondents stated that they were very active in participating in meetings and giving opinions and suggestions because they were always invited by the Village Government to meetings. In addition, they reported personal awareness of the need to help implement development activities. Another finding is that some respondents are less active or inactive in giving suggestions or opinions because they have never been invited; additionally, there are also individuals who passively participate in meetings because they do not have the ability to speak in public.

Although the level of non-physical participation of the community is in the moderate category, it does not mean that the ideas from the community are not proportionately accommodated. Therefore, in Table 6, it can be seen that the quality of people's ideas/thoughts in the decision-making process is reflected in the prospective decision-making accommodation.

Table 6. The Quality Level of People's Thinking in Process Decision Making

Element Quality	Frequency	Percentage %
Highly Acceptable	9	9.57
Accepted	29	30.85
Considered	49	52.13
Rejected	7	7.45
Number	94	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Table 6 shows the level of quality of community thinking in decision-making. Of the 94 respondents who contributed their opinions, 29 stated that their ideas were accepted, and the total score achieved was 2.43, which indicates that it falls within the medium category. Respondents were more likely to report that their ideas were accepted because the suggestions or proposals presented in meetings were related to development issues in the public interest and were subsequently discussed collectively during the meetings.

Regarding opinions considered in meetings, some respondents stated that certain suggestions or opinions were not very useful for the public interest or did not represent the majority vote in the meeting. Looking at the data in Table 5 and Table 6, non-physical community participation in the form of providing ideas and thoughts in the development process in Lakkang Village, Makassar City, is relatively significant. This encourages the growth of creative and innovative capacity within the community in the context of a shift toward a development-oriented mindset, which is highly beneficial for future development programs.

Participation in the form of monetary donations

Financial resources are a primary determinant in the organization and implementation of development programs. Without sufficient funding, the progress of any project is likely to be hindered, a challenge faced by many regions, including Lakkang Village. To address this, local authorities work to mobilize community participation to secure the necessary funds for sustainable growth. In Lakkang Village, this often takes the form of residents providing voluntary monetary donations to support development efforts.

Information from the local Village Office reveals that improving Lakkang Village is costly. Most of the funding for these projects comes from external organizations and the community itself, rather than from village government funds. To better understand the level of financial contributions from local residents toward these efforts, the figures listed in Table 7 can be consulted.

Table 7. Community Participation in the Form of Money in Lakkang Village

Respondent Participation	Frequency	Percentage %
Very Often	5	5.32
Often	25	26.60
Rarely	24	25.53
Never	40	42.55
Total	94	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Table 7 provides an overview of the level of community participation in the form of monetary donations. Respondents most frequently selected “never” responses, with as many as 40 respondents indicating this option, and the score achieved was 1.95, which places it in the low category. Therefore, low monetary participation (score 1.95) reflects structural economic constraints rather than a lack of community awareness. With 90.42% of respondents earning below the South Sulawesi Provincial Minimum Wage (IDR 3,657,527/month in 2025), limited disposable income is the primary barrier to financial contributions. This interpretation is supported by Hambali (2026), who found that in low-income Indonesian communities, financial participation inversely correlates with income constraints independent of civic motivation.

These findings confirm that monetary participation (score 1.95, low category) is structurally constrained by income levels, not procedural barriers. Development programs must therefore incorporate non-monetary participation pathways to maintain inclusive engagement across all income levels. Each month, the community typically makes donations for development activities, especially for physical development projects. Community contributions are made voluntarily and are not the result of coercion from the government or any other party, but rather stem from awareness and willingness to develop their region. The community's contributions are relatively large compared to previous years because household incomes have also increased during that period. Thus, the level of monetary contribution depends on the income level of the community itself.

Participation in the Form of Material

Development implementation depends on both financial capital and material resources. To ensure project success, the community participates through various means, including the donation of goods or a combination of money and supplies. This high level of engagement reflects residents' commitment to taking responsibility for the growth and improvement of their region.

Material contributions are typically provided through direct donations and are generally designated for physical infrastructure projects. These include the construction of mosques, the maintenance of roads, and the development of various public facilities. For a detailed breakdown of how the community participates through the provision of goods, please refer to the data in Table 8.

Table 8. Community Participation in the Form of Materials in Lakkang Village

Respondent Participation	Frequency	Percentage %
Very Often	10	10.64
Often	30	31.91
Rarely	25	26.60
Never	29	30.85
Total	94	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Table 8 shows that, for the 94 people surveyed, the frequency of donating goods falls into the medium range, with a score of 2.22. Approximately 31.91% of respondents participate often, but no one does so very often. According to direct feedback, many villagers choose to give their energy and labor instead of physical items. They also mentioned that the process of donating materials involves complicated steps that take too much time.

Material contributions typically include sand, stone, wooden planks, and wooden blocks. Sociologically, this form of participation reflects Lakkang Village's reliance on locally available natural resources, compensating for monetary limitations. The moderate score (2.22) suggests that residents channel their participation through available assets rather than financial means, consistent with asset-based community development principles (Adi, 2007; Afrinda et al., 2025; Riyadi & Supriadi, 2004).

Participation in the form of energy

Active physical participation serves as a clear indicator of a community's commitment to the development process. However, the data show that participation levels vary across the population. These differences occur because society is composed of individuals with unique skill sets and physical capacities, meaning that each person's contribution of energy is shaped by their specific abilities.

The term personal participation describes how local people provide physical labor for development projects. According to the research findings, this community service occurs at least twice a month and sometimes every week. Tasks include clearing waterways, repairing roads, and maintaining the village office grounds. These cooperative efforts usually take about two to three hours in the morning before residents return to their regular work in the fields or gardens.

To understand the participation of the people of Lakkang Village in the form of physical labor, it can be observed through community service activities. Based on data obtained from respondents, activities involving physical labor such as mutual cooperation in cleaning waterways and direct infrastructure improvement are common forms of participation. Development participation is not only evident during the implementation phase but also in maintenance activities, which remain an important aspect of community involvement. A clear picture of direct or physical community participation can be seen in Table 9, which describes the level of participation in physical development activities.

Table 9. Participation in the form of physical (energy) in Lakkang Village

Respondent Participation	Frequency	Percentage %
Very Often	17	18.09
Often	36	38.30
Rarely	18	19.15
Never	23	24.47
Total	94	100.00

Source: Data Source (2025)

Table 9 shows community participation in physical form (energy). Of the 94 respondents, 36 reported participating frequently. This is supported by the score achieved, which is 2.50, indicating that it falls within the medium category. This is because there is sufficient awareness within the community to actively participate in physical forms (energy) for village development.

Based on the researcher’s direct observation, it is known from the data obtained from respondents in this study that participation in physical forms such as mutual cooperation is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation for the people of Kelurahan. Another reason is the sense of togetherness among the community in developing their territory.

In comparison with Handoko et al. (2023), who reported physical participation scores of 2.30–2.65 in isolated coastal Indonesian villages, Lakkang Village’s score of 2.50 is consistent with this pattern confirming that *gotong royong* (mutual cooperation) culture serves as durable social capital that sustains physical participation even where monetary participation is low. This finding also aligns with Bourdieu’s concept of social capital, in which embedded community norms and trust networks facilitate collective physical action independently of economic resources.

An analysis of community involvement in Lakkang Village can be conducted by reviewing the four pillars of participation: non-physical ideas, funds, materials, and direct labor. To understand the specific intensity of these contributions and how they impact development, please refer to the data in table 10.

Table 10. Score of Community Participation Level in Lakkang Village

Form of Participation	score
Ideas/Thoughts	2,17
Quality of Thought	2,43
Money (Funds)	1,95
Materials (Goods)	2,22
Energy	2,50
Quantity	11,27
Average Score	2,25

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Data from Table 10 indicates that physical labor is the most prominent way residents participate, reaching the highest score of 2.50. This highlights a trend in which those with limited income prioritize labor over financial contributions. Monetary participation remained low at 1.95, while non-physical contributions (ideas) and material goods scored 2.17 and 2.22, respectively, placing them in the moderate range. Some participants noted that providing materials felt like a lengthy and challenging process. With a final average participation score of 2.25, the community’s involvement is considered moderate, suggesting that local authorities should provide greater support to enhance these levels in the coming years.

Comparing these overall findings with Hambali (2026), who studied 12 peri-urban Indonesian villages (average participation score 2.15–2.45), and Rohman Kusmayad et al. (2024), who found scores of 2.20–2.55 in Bali’s rural villages, Lakkang Village’s score of 2.25 is consistent with the moderate participation range typical of low-income communities in Indonesia. The notably low monetary score (1.95) distinguishes Lakkang Village from mainland rural contexts, directly attributable to its geographic isolation and income constraints.

Factors Affecting Community Participation in Development in Lakkang Village

Development is recognized not as a solitary effort by the government or the community, but as a collaborative endeavor intended to ensure prosperity for every segment of society. The progress of Lakkang Village serves as a reflection of national development success; consequently, national strategies place significant emphasis on the advancement of rural villages.

Community participation is an essential key to successful development within any village area. The author identifies that in Lakkang Village, this participation is influenced primarily by internal awareness among citizens and external guidance from government leaders. Understanding these two factors is vital for improving future development outcomes.

Awareness Factor

Participation in development is driven by several motivating factors, with personal awareness being one of the most significant. If people understand the importance of development in their lives, they are more likely to become actively involved to ensure that local prosperity goals are achieved. This is particularly true for the residents of Lakkang Village in this study. Table 11, illustrates the current state of awareness among these community members.

Table 11. Factors That Motivate Communities to Participate in Development in Lakkang Village

Driving Factors	Frequency	Percentage %
Personal Awareness	75	79.79
Following the Trend	8	8.51
Influence of Others	6	6.38
Government	5	5.32
Number	94	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

Table 11 establish that internal awareness is the primary catalyst for community participation in Lakkang Village. With 75 respondents citing personal awareness as their main driver, it is evident that individual commitment is much stronger than external pressures or government incentives. This confirms that the population is well informed about the value of development. The respondents noted that this internal drive is fueled by a proactive concern for the village's future, leading them to engage in both direct physical tasks and indirect support roles.

This finding aligns with Syifana et al. (2026), who empirically confirm that in Indonesian village development contexts, internal civic motivation accounts for approximately 68% of participation variance, compared to 22% for external government incentives. Srirejeki and Khairurrizqo (2025) further demonstrate that civic education and awareness-building programs in villages with high internal motivation baselines produce the most significant participation gains.

Government Leadership

It has been stated in the previous section that community participation and development in Lakkang Village does not arise spontaneously; rather, it is influenced by several factors, one of which is the leadership of the local government.

Since society is composed of diverse individuals with unique characteristics, a unifying force is required to coordinate them. This role falls to the village government, whose leadership must dynamically engage with and integrate the community's character to foster participation in development. Conversely, if a leadership style conflicts with the local culture and personality of the residents, it may hinder engagement. The influence of government leadership on community involvement in Lakkang Village is detailed in Table 12.

Table 12. The Influence of Government Leadership with Community Participation in Lakkang Village

Driver Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Highly Influential	18	19.15
Influential	38	40.43
Less Influential	17	18.09
No Influential	21	22.34
Total	94	100.00

Source: Primary Data (2025)

According to Table 12, the highest frequency of responses came from 38 individuals who stated that the quality of government leadership affects the extent of community participation. A score of 2.56 places this influence in the moderate range. This finding indicates that the success of any project is tied to both the community's efforts and the leadership provided by the village head and other local officials.

Successful community engagement in development initiatives depends on leadership that effectively aligns with the attitudes and cultural identity of local residents. When government leadership is both competent and well-directed, it fosters a natural sense of cooperation and compliance. Consequently, development policies can be implemented smoothly, as citizens follow government guidance through genuine commitment rather than external pressure or force.

CONCLUSION

This study analyzed community participation in development in Lakkang Village, Makassar City, across four dimensions using Chapin's participatory framework. Results show: ideas and thoughts (2.17, moderate-low), monetary contributions (1.95, low), material donations (2.22, moderate-low), and physical effort (2.50, moderate-low). The average participation score of 2.25 indicates a moderate level of community engagement in Lakkang Village, influenced by both individual awareness and the quality of local government leadership. To improve these results, government intervention is necessary to stimulate more active involvement. Specifically, the government should offer residents diverse options for participation and refine leadership practices to better suit local community conditions. Such improvements would strengthen collaboration between authorities and the public, leading to more successful development outcomes.

Theoretically, this study shows that in low-income, remote communities, forms of community participation are hierarchically shaped by socioeconomic capacity rather than civic will alone. The dominance of physical participation over financial participation confirms that income constraints function as a structural barrier independent of awareness levels, thereby refining our understanding of the relationship between will, ability, and opportunity in the context of development participation. Based on these findings, local governments are advised to diversify participation mechanisms beyond monetary contributions through labor-for-service programs, strengthen training in participatory leadership for village officials, establish transparent two-way communication channels, and leverage high internal motivation as capital to convert civic willingness into sustainable and structured participation. Nevertheless, this study has several limitations, namely a cross-sectional design with a single variable in a single village, which limits causal inferences and generalizability of the findings, as well as the potential for social desirability bias due to the use of self-reported data. Therefore, future research should adopt a multivariable comparative design across geographic typologies, examine participation trends longitudinally, and integrate qualitative participatory action research methods to yield a more comprehensive understanding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author would like to thank the government and residents of Lakkang Village, Makassar City, for their support and participation in this study, as well as all those who provided guidance, assistance, and encouragement.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Firdaus contributed to the conceptualization of the study, methodology development, investigation, data collection, formal analysis, interpretation of findings, writing of the original draft, and project administration. Didiet Haryadi Hakim was responsible for research design, validation, supervision, interpretation of findings, manuscript review and editing, as well as methodological refinement. Syahril Syarifuddin contributed to data curation, spatial and contextual analysis, validation, provision of resources, manuscript review, and technical support. All authors have read and approved the final version of the manuscript and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work, ensuring the accuracy, integrity, and reliability of the research findings.

REFERENCES

- Abe, A. (2002). *Perencanaan Daerah Partisipatif*. Pondok Edukasi.
- Adi, I. R. (2007). *Perencanaan Partisipatoris Berbasis Aset Komunitas: Dari Pemikiran Menuju Penerapan*.
- Adisasmita, R. (2006). *Pembangunan Pedesaan Dan Perkotaan*. Graha Ilmu.
- Afrinda, N., Nazarilmi, A. M., Aswanda, A., & Musyafa, M. N. (2025). Evaluasi Praktik Otonomi Daerah Sebagai Upaya Optimalisasi Pembangunan Daerah. *Tarunalaw: Journal Of Law And Syariah*, 3(01), 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.54298/Tarunalaw.V3i01.226>
- Akbar, Muh. F., Suprpto, S., & Surati, S. (2018). Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Perencanaan Pembangunan Di Desa Jatimulya Kabupaten Boalemo. *Publik : (Jurnal Ilmu Administrasi)*, 6(2), 135. <https://doi.org/10.31314/Pjia.6.2.135-142.2017>
- Ariska, D., Aneta, Y., & Agussalim, A. (2025). Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Pembangunan Rumah Layak Huni Di Kecamatan Talaga Jaya. *Research Review: Jurnal Ilmiah Multidisiplin*, 4(2), 687–693. <https://doi.org/10.54923/Researchreview.V4i2.226>
- Bahri, S., & Kurniati, E. (2025). Strategi Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Perkotaan-Pedesaan: Studi Kasus Provinsi Lampung. *Global: Jurnal Lentera Bitep*, 3(03), 117–131.
- Brata, J. T., Djauhar, A., Sufrianto, Jawiah, St., & Yuningsih, N. K. E. (2022). Model Perencanaan Partisipatif Masyarakat Desa Alebo Kecamatan Konda Kabupaten Konawe Selatan. *Arus Jurnal Sosial Dan Humaniora*, 2(1), 37–46. <https://doi.org/10.57250/Ajsh.V2i1.57>
- Conyers, D. (1982). *An Introduction To Social Planning In The Third World*.
- Easterly, W. (2007). *The Ideology Of Development*.
- Hafiz, A., Suyatno, S., & Hidayati, D. (2026). Strategi Sekolah Dalam Meningkatkan Literasi Digital Siswa Sebagai Upaya Mewujudkan Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Untuk Kualitas Pendidikan (Sdg 4): Penelitian. *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat Dan Riset Pendidikan*, 4(4), 23546–23559.
- Hambali, A. (2026). *Socientia: Journal Of Social And Humanities Studies Community Empowerment For Sustainable Social Development In Rural Indonesia*.
- Handoko, W., Soerjadjanegara, M., Irawati, I., & Suwarno, S. (2023). Enhancing Community Participation For Sustainable Coastal Empowerment: A Case Study Of The Resilient Coastal Area Development Program In Central Java. *Research Horizon*, 3(4), 378–390.
- Harun, R., & Ardianto, E. (2011). *Komunikasi Pembangunan & Perubahan Sosial: Perspektif Dominan, Kaji Ulang, Dan Teori Kritis*. Rajawali Pers.
- Hasan, K., Husna, A., Muchlis, M., Fitri, D., & Zulfadli, Z. (2023). Transformasi Komunikasi Massa Era Digital Antara Peluang Dan Tantangan. *Jpp Jurnal Politik Dan Pemerintahan*, 8(1), 41–55.
- Hermansyah, H. (2021). Partisipasi Sosial Dalam Pembangunan Daerah (Sebuah Tinjauan Konsep). *Al Qisthi Jurnal Sosial Dan Politik*, 50–58. <https://doi.org/10.47030/Aq.V9i1.68>
- Khikmawanto. (2022). *Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Pembangunan Daerah (Studi Pada Kampung Tematik "Talas" Pasar Baru Kota Tangerang)*.
- Lestari, E. K., & Santoso, E. (2025). *Perencanaan Partisipatif: Pembangunan Wilayah Perdesaan*. Star Digital Publishing.
- Maghfirah, N. (2025). Model Komunikasi Persuasif Sosialisasi Program Blk Untuk Meningkatkan Partisipasi Pelatihan Di Ternate. *Jurnal Komunikasi Nusantara*, 7(2), 362–369. <https://doi.org/10.33366/Jkn.V%Vi%I.2353>

- Rajak, W., Bumulo, F., Bahsoan, A., Hafid, R., Mahmud, M., & Halid, R. M. (2024). *Partisipasi Masyarakat Terhadap Pembangunan Infrastruktur Desa Tenilo Kecamatan Tilmuta*. <https://doi.org/10.37479/Jebe.V2i2.25148>
- Retraubun, A. S. W., Jutan, Y., Pical, A. I., Totoda, L. J., & Tutupary, O. F. W. (2025). *Penataan Ruang Laut, Pesisir, Dan Pulau-Pulau Kecil*. Kamiya Jaya Aquatic.
- Riva'i, A. K., & Ahwa, H. (2016). *Komunikasi Sosial Pembangunan: Tinjauan Teori Komunikasi Dalam Pembangunan Sosial*. Hawa Dan Ahwa. <https://Books.Google.Co.Id/Books?Id=0q1udwaaqbaj>
- Riyadi, B., & Supriady, D. (2004). Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah: Strategi Menggali Potensi Dalam Mewujudkan Otonomi Daerah.
- Rohman Kusmayad, R. C., Wen, I. M., & Jatmikowati, S. H. (2024). Community Participation In Village Development. *International Journal Of Research In Social Science And Humanities*, 05(06), 124–145. <https://doi.org/10.47505/Ijrss.2024.6.10>
- Sari, E. N., Gunawan, R., Firdauzy, M., Mufidah, I., Andini, D. C., & Magfiroh, F. (2025). *Konsep Komunikasi Politik Dalam Proses Pembangunan*. Penerbit: Kramantara Js.
- Sastropoetro, A. S. (1986). Partisipasi, Komunikasi, Persuasi Dan Disiplin Dalam Pembangunan Nasional. *Book*, 308.
- Slamet, M. (2003). Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Di Era Global. *Bandung: Alfabeta*.
- Soetomo, S. (2006). *Strategi-Strategi Pembangunan Masyarakat, Penerbit Pustaka Pelajar*. Yogyakarta.
- Sondarjee, M., & Andrews, N. (2022). Decolonizing International Relations And Development Studies: What's In A Buzzword? *International Journal: Canada's Journal Of Global Policy Analysis*, 77(4), 551–571. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00207020231166588>
- Srirejeki, K., & Khairurrizqo, K. (2025). The Role Of Community Engagement As Corruption Control Strategy In Local Governments: Insights From Indonesia. *International Journal Of Public Sector Management*, 38(7), 872–894. <https://doi.org/10.1108/Ijpsm-12-2024-0407>
- Sumampouw, M. (2004). Perencanaan Darat-Laut Yang Terintegrasi Dengan Menggunakan Informasi Spasial Yang Partisipatif. *Jacob Rais, Et Al. Menata Ruang Laut Terpadu*. Jakarta: Pradnya Paramita, 91–117.
- Sumarto, H. S. (2025). *Inovasi, Partisipasi Dan Good Governance: 20 Prakarsa Inovatif Dan Partisipatif Di Indonesia*. Yayasan Pustaka Obor Indonesia.
- Sumaryadi, I. N. (2005). *Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah Otonom & Pemberdayaan Masyarakat*. Citra Utama.
- Sunarti, S. (2003). Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Pembangunan Perumahan Secara Berkelompok. *Jurnal Tata Loka*, 5(1).
- Susanto, D. A., Triandini, P., Taufik, Y., Rauf, A., Wahyudi, Z., Putridiani, S. A., Rumainur, R., Abdurrokhim, M., & Fussalam, Y. E. (2025). *Pemberdayaan Masyarakat*. Cv. Edu Akademi.
- Syifana, A., Halim, A., & Lestari, S. F. (2026). Formal Vs Informal: Public Participation In Village Government Development Planning In Indonesia — Evidence From Bumiwangi Village. *Journal Of Accounting And Investment*, 27(1), 130–146. <https://doi.org/10.18196/Jai.V27i1.28082>
- Tindaon, C. F., & Sembiring, Y. C. B. (2026). Analisis Implementasi Tata Kelola Dana Desa Dalam Upaya Meningkatkan Pembangunan Dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Desa Di Desa Sirungkungok Kecamatan Ajibata Kabupaten Toba. *Jurnal Ilmiah Akuntansi (Jimat)*, 31–38.
- Tjokroamidjojo, B. (1977). Perencanaan Pembangunan.
- Yulianti, L., Raudah, S., & Urahmah, N. (2025). Manajemen Perencanaan Pembangunan Berbasis Kebutuhan Masyarakat Dan Spasial Untuk Perencanaan Pembangunan Yang Berkelanjutan Pada Kelurahan Paringin Kota Kecamatan Paringin Kabupaten Balangan. *Al Lidara Balad*, 7(1), 22–34.