



The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the Social Economic of the Local Community in Arborek Village, Raja Ampat Regency, West Papua Province

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ABSTRACT

Arborek Raja Ampat Sorong West Papua is a pilot village in the Raja Ampat area of Papua. This village is a pioneer among 18 villages in community-based local conservation of marine wealth. With the help of the central government, local governments, research centers, and non-governmental organizations, the local community in this village has succeeded in formulating local regulations, naming their conservation areas namely, Mambarayup and Indip. Arborek is blessed with wealth and extraordinary beauty of the sea. This study aims to determine the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the economy of rural communities. The community as tourism actors should benefit from tourism activities, therefore this research is very important so that it can be known how much influence and changes have occurred since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: Impact Social Economy, Covid-19 Pandemic, Local Community

1. Introduction

Tourism is a sector that plays an important role in increasing income. Indonesia is a country that has natural beauty and cultural diversity, so it is necessary to increase the tourism sector. This is because tourism is a sector that is considered profitable and has the potential to be developed as an asset that is used as a source of income for the nation and state.

Tourism comes from two words, namely ray and tourism. *Pari* can be interpreted as many, many times, round and round or complete. While tourism can be interpreted as a trip or traveling which in this case is synonymous with the word "travel" in English. On that basis, the word 'tourism' can be interpreted as a trip that is carried out many times or in circles from one place to another. Which in English is called "Tour. (Yoeti, 1991:103). Meanwhile, according to RG. Soekadijo (1997:8), tourism is all activities in the community related to tourists.

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, tourism is everything related to travel for recreation, travelers, and tourism (Ministry of National Education, 2005: 830). According to Murphy (1985) tourism is all related elements, such as tourists, tourist destinations, travel, industry and so on. The development of a place that is used as a tourism area is expected to be a source and potential for economic activity, including other sector activities so that employment, community income, regional income, and state income, as well as foreign exchange earnings increase through efforts to develop and develop various national tourism potentials, while maintaining national personality and preservation of function and quality of the environment.

Arborek Raja Ampat Sorong West Papua is a pilot village in the Raja Ampat area of Papua. This village is a pioneer among 18 villages in community-based local conservation of marine wealth. With the help of the central government, local governments, research centers, and non-governmental organizations, the local community in this village has succeeded in formulating local regulations, naming their conservation areas namely, Mambarayup and Indip.

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The community as tourism actors should benefit from tourism activities, therefore this research is very important so that it can be known how much influence and changes have occurred since the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Methodology

1. Interview

Interview is a data collection technique conducted by two parties (interviewer and interviewee) to collect information. Thus, researchers have prepared interview controls to develop research instruments in the form of interviews.

2. Scientific journals, Theses and Thesis

Scientific journals, theses, and theses have an important function as a study instrument to collect secondary data. These scientific literatures are used to collect concepts and theories that are relevant to the research problem.

According to Moleong (2002: 103), data analysis is the process of arranging the sequence of data, organizing it into a pattern, category, and basic description unit so that the data is easier to read and conclude.

Meanwhile, according to Taylor, (1975: 79), data is a process that details efforts formally to find themes and formulate hypotheses (ideas) as suggested and as an effort to provide assistance and themes to the hypothesis. If examined, basically the first definition focuses more on organizing data, while the second one emphasizes the intent and purpose of data analysis.

3. Results

Arborek Tourism Village is a development priority in the Medium Term Development Plan of Raja Ampat Regency for the 2011-2030 period. Therefore, tourism villages must become a pillar in the tourism sector in developing Raja Ampat Regency in the future. It is hoped that by creating this tourist village, the people in Raja Ampat Regency can, especially the Arborek Tourism Village, be better and can also improve the economic standard of living and the welfare of the local community in preparing themselves for the Exclusive Tourism Province.

Arborek Tourism Village is located on an island located in the MeosMansar area, Raja Ampat Regency, West Papua with an area of 6 hectares, with a population of around 43 families. Arborek Village is one of the pioneers among 18 other villages in West Papua which is used as a development for community-based marine wealth conservation. Arborek Tourism Village has the potential for underwater tourism such as snorkeling and diving. In addition, other people make handicrafts as souvenirs that are sold to tourists who come. Previously, the local community used fishermen as their main livelihood, but since the tourism village was formed, the local community changed jobs and participated in the conservation of Arborek Tourism Village. By looking at the potential of the Arborek Tourism Village, it is a tourist area that can attract many tourists who come.

However, with the Corona Virus-19 pandemic that has hit the world globally since the beginning of 2020, the Arborek Tourism Village has also been affected, causing tourist visits to decline, many home stays are not inhabited and also Arborek diving has been closed for a year due to covid-19 and everything has decreased. drastically.

Meanwhile, the distribution of aid is still awaiting approval of funds from the DPRD and the district government. During this period of social restrictions, Gita and the village community opened gardens in the yard in the village up to Gam Island. They also took the initiative to hold marine education classes for school children who during this period of social restrictions were unable to study at school. The goal is that the children of Arborek Village have knowledge about the environment and the sea.

The emergence of Covid-19 has dealt a fairly hard blow, one of which is the policy of closing tourism destinations. The impact of Covid-19 on the tourism sector states that since the instructions to maintain social distancing and echo activities at home, the tourism sector has become sluggish, forcing tourism destinations to be closed and laying off workers due to lack of income. In addition, the tourism industry such as home stays also experienced the same thing.

From the results of this study, it can be illustrated that the influence of Covid-19 is very large for all aspects of life, especially the economy, one of which is in the Arborek Raja Ampat tourist village, a place that has tourism potential and can also be said to be a very famous tourist village from 18 villages. other. In addition to the natural tourism potential owned by the arborek, home stays are also managed by the local community as well as arborek diving.

The results of the interviews that were conducted, the answers given by the respondents were almost the same as other respondents, in which they stated that prior to the existence of Covid-19, tourism in this arborek village was going well and the results obtained from tourism were sufficient to fulfill life. themeveryday.

The work of local people in Arborek Village before the Covid-19 outbreak was to become tour guides, diving/snorkelers and handicraftsmen or there were also home stay owners or custodians or it could be said that the work of the people in Arborek Village was mostly tourism, but some also worked in offices, both as nurses. or mantriand also some who become teachers even though they are still honorary, but the income they get from these jobs is very sufficient to meet the needs of daily life.

However, after the covid-19 pandemic, all tourism work, home stays, diving/snorkelling, hand craftsmen, and office workers or teachers who usually do this had to be stopped due to covid-19, so the Arborek tourist village was closed and there were no guests. who arrived as well as employees, offices, nurses/matriyas, and teachers because they were still honorary, they also had to be sent home by the government. And the work of the community in Arborek village is back to what it used to be, namely by gardening, fishing or fishing and selling garden products or fishing products to the market to be able to meet their daily needs.

Due to this covid-19, there is also a lot of crime happening in big cities, but for the arborek village itself, security is still very much going on and the local community also hopes that there will be no crime in the village or bad life behavior due to this covid-19.

From these results, we can see how much change has occurred before and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Conclusion

From the results of the discussion above, it can be concluded that the influence of Covid-19 has greatly impacted tourism in Arborek village, with the livelihood of the people there, namely tourism. but since the existence of covid-19 this has made people who used to work in tourism have to return to being fishermen, gardening and so on. Likewise, handicrafts, diving, and home stays in Arborek village are quiet because there are no visitors coming.

During this covid-19 period, there are many crimes that occur both in big cities and in small towns, but for this Arborek village itself, during this pandemic period, no crime has occurred, such as stealing and others.

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