



# Community Participation in Controlling Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed in Binong Village, Bandung City

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## Abstract

This study analyzes the participation of the people of Binong Village, Bandung City, in the implementation of the Acceleration of Pollution Control and Damage to the Citarum River Basin. With a qualitative approach and case studies involving residents affected by eviction as a population, Data collection methods involve interviews, direct observation, and document analysis. The success of the Citarum Harum program, based on Presidential Regulation Number 15 of 2018, requires community participation. The establishment of a forum between RWs in Binong Village as a forum for community aspirations. Despite the stimulant relief, some residents were disappointed that compensation was not comparable. The ability of communities to be involved in the decision process varies, with some supporting river revitalization while others contradicting the lack of clarity about relocation for long-standing residents. The decision-making process is considered less involving the community, with socialization only including regulatory information without considering the real condition of the population. This study provides a comprehensive overview of community participation in pollution control policies in the Citarum watershed, emphasizing the importance of considering community perspectives in environmental policy planning.

**Keywords:** *Community Participation, Pollution Control, Regulation, Citarum Harum, Environmental Policy.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Development in various fields is one way to achieve the goals required by a country. One of the In everyday life, we never escape the administrative process. Therefore, the state exists as an organization that provides government to meet the needs of society. However, apart from providing policies to regulate the running of government, the state must be able to carry out development. Many people think that development is only in the form of infrastructure. In fact, according to Mustopadidjaja (1976), development administration is the science and art of how to develop a system that is capable of carrying out various government and development functions effectively and efficiently.

In line with Mustopadidjaya, Sondang P. Siagian gave his view, that development administration is a series of efforts to realize planned and conscious growth and change undertaken by a nation or state to achieve modernity in the context of national development. From the opinions of these two experts, it can be concluded that administration is an effort process carried out by a nation to realize growth and change to achieve the nation's ideals by fostering the nation.



Good development is the development of a just and prosperous society, this is because justice is closer to bringing prosperity, because it could be that everyone is prosperous but not everything is fair, such as the construction of a toll road can bring prosperity to the government, one of which is in terms of the cost of using the road, but not It is fair for people who sell on roadsides across provinces to experience a lack of visitors (Anggara and Sumantri 2016).

Development carried out by the government requires community participation so that development runs optimally. The definition of community participation is divided into two words, namely participation in participation' which means participation. Meanwhile, society in English is 'society' which means a group or group of people. So community participation has the meaning of a large group of people taking part in the association (Magriastin 2011).

In another definition, community participation is a process of continuous two-way communication to provide a positive impact on the community regarding the activity process, even though matters of a technical nature such as budgeting and analysis are regulated by parties who have authority. In simple terms, the definition of community participation is the communication of information from the government to the community regarding a policy taken and there is reciprocity from the community to the government regarding the policy (Wijaksono 2013).

So community participation provides meaning as a method of interaction between elite and non-elite groups. This is supported by the view of the UN (United Nations) that community participation in development aims to create opportunities for the entire community to provide influence and contribution in a development process and fair results, to take part in a development process (Wijaksono 2013).

In the process, a development plan begins with information about available resources, where this information results in the fact that development is in line with what is needed, the ups and downs of reform and democratic government cause the public to know more about what is needed. So community participation has a very important urgency because its impact can create a sense of ownership and responsibility for development planning (Wirawan, et al. 2015).

According to Conyers (in Wirawan, et al. 2015), the importance of community participation is because the community is a tool for obtaining information about the environment which includes circumstances, conditions, and attitudes. Apart from that, the community feels trusted in the program because they are involved in the planning process, thereby creating a sense of ownership of the program. As well as encouraging because community involvement is a democratic right (Wirawan, et al. 2015). The factors that influence community participation are internal factors and external factors. Internal factors include individuals from a society based on the criteria of age, education, employment, and income. Meanwhile, external factors include community organizations such as RT and Citizens Association (Wijaksono 2013).

Starting in 2018, the ancient river named Citarum was named the dirtiest river in the world. It is conceivable that approximately 1,900 industries, 90% of which do not have Waste Water Treatment Plants (IPAL), are located in the Citarum River. Not only that, 20,426 tons of household waste dominates the waste in the Citarum River (Gabriela 2023).

Therefore, the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, issued a policy in the form of Presidential Regulation Number 15 of 2018 concerning the Acceleration of Control of Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed, in Article 9 paragraph

(2) Letters B and d explain that it is necessary to stop sources of pollution or damage to the Citarum River and prevent and prohibit people from building buildings in areas that have a protected function (President of the Republic of Indonesia 2018).



This resulted in the eviction of several residences in the Citarum River Basin area, one of which was in the Binong Village area, Batununggal District, Bandung City. The target residences that will be razed to implement the Presidential Regulation are marked with red numbers. A house marked with this sign means it does not have land ownership documents.

What has become a polemic is that many people are disappointed that they are considered squatters because they do not have land ownership documents, even though they are administratively registered as residents of that location. Apart from that, until now in 2023, buildings that have been razed will be left as they are, there will be no compensation for profits for residents who have land certificates, the only available thing is mercy money or what is called "kadeudeuh".

(Nadia 2022) with the research title Community Participation Movement in the Citarum Harum River Watershed Program (Case Study in Biru Village, Majalaya District), Indonesian Education University, Based on the research findings, it can be found that Weaknesses are lack of communication which causes errors between officers' delivery and understanding community, Constraints from the budget aspect and people having other activities, Opportunities for the environment to be safe, friendly, clean and protected from natural disasters, Threats when water rises causing flooding.

(Pasundani 2022), Community Participation in Supporting the Citarum Harum Program in Cilampeni Village, Katapang District, Bandung Regency, Siliwangi University, Research results show that the implementation of the Citarum Harum Program in Cilampeni Village is spatial planning of the Citarum River bank area, handling industrial and domestic waste, handling waste, and public education. The participation of the Cilampeni Village community in supporting the Citarum Harum Program is carried out in the form of idea participation and personnel participation. The participation of the Cilampeni Village community in supporting the Citarum Harum Program is still relatively low and passive, while the participation of personnel is quite good. What differentiates previous research and this research is the research object, this research uses theory (Marschall, 2006) which has 3 indicators, namely, the existence of groups to accommodate community participation, the ability of the community to be involved in the process, the existence of community activities to express opinions in the process. decision-making. Based on this presentation, researchers want to examine how the community of Binong Village participates in the implementation of Accelerated Control of Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed. So this research aims to analyze community participation in Binong Village, Batununggal District, Bandung City.

## 2. METHOD

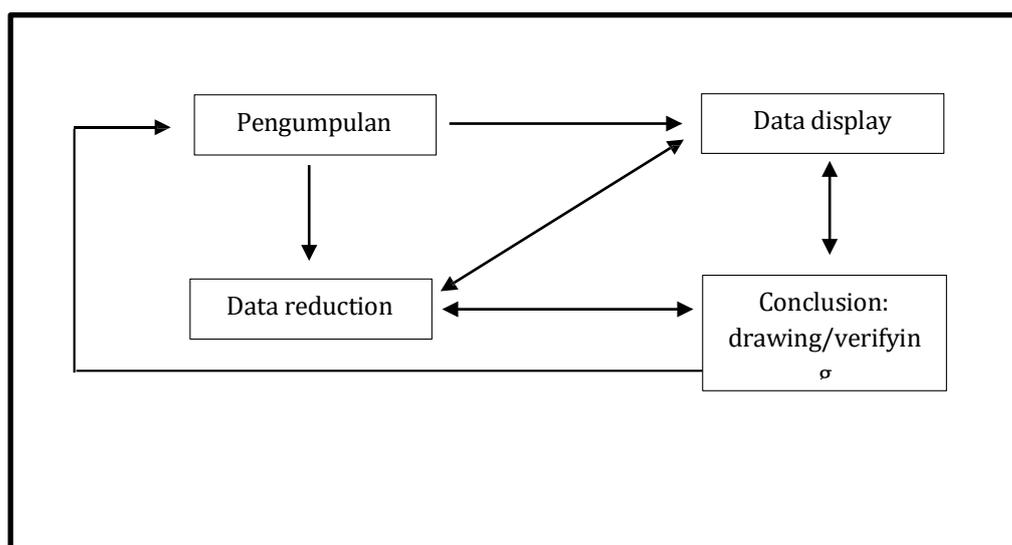
This research uses a qualitative approach with a case study in Binong Village, Bandung City. The informants consisted of residents affected by eviction, with samples selected purposively. In this research, data collection used triangulation techniques. Triangulation is a technique that researchers will carry out crosscheck from the results of the data obtained to produce valid data. Triangulation is divided into three types, namely source triangulation, data collection technique triangulation, and time triangulation (Sugiyono, 2013, p. 179). Therefore, the researcher plans to use the source triangulation technique, where source triangulation is a technique for testing the credibility of data obtained from many sources, then the data is analyzed which will later provide results in the form of conclusions. After that, carry out checks to ask for agreement on the results of the conclusions.

In general, there are two stages in collecting data, namely the preparation and implementation stages. In qualitative research, at the preparation stage, the researcher must be able to determine informants and compile them draft interviews based on guidelines



existing ones, determine the "locus" object that is the object of research, and look for data to support the primary data. Then at the implementation stage, the researcher collects the results from the data that has been received and begins to process it (Nurdin and Hartati, 2019, p. 31). Data collection methods involve in-depth interviews with community leaders, representatives of interest group forums, and affected residents. Direct observations were carried out at the eviction location, as well as analysis of documents related to regulations and policies. Data will be analyzed qualitatively with a thematic approach. Researchers use the Miles and Huberman model of data analysis which consists of 3 steps in data analysis reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. So that the relationship between data collection and data analysis of the Miles and Huberman model can be described as follows,

Figure 1.  
Components in Miles and Huberman Data Analysis



Source: R&D Research Methodology Book, Sugiyono, 2013

At the data collection stage, qualitative research will produce a lot of various data. Therefore, a data reduction stage is needed, namely sorting and selecting important and focused data to obtain a picture to facilitate research guided by theory and the goals to be achieved by the researcher. After the data reduction process is complete, the next stage is presenting the data in a narrative form. The final step is concluding, conclusions that are supported by valid data then the conclusion is credible. So that the conclusion can answer the problem.

Research ethics are maintained by maintaining the privacy of informants and obtaining permission before starting research. Research sustainability includes updating data and disseminating results to the community and related parties. Limited time, budget, and informant participation were considerations in designing this research. The research aims to provide a comprehensive picture of participation community in implementing pollution control policies in the Citarum River Basin, especially regarding evictions in Binong Village.



### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### General Description

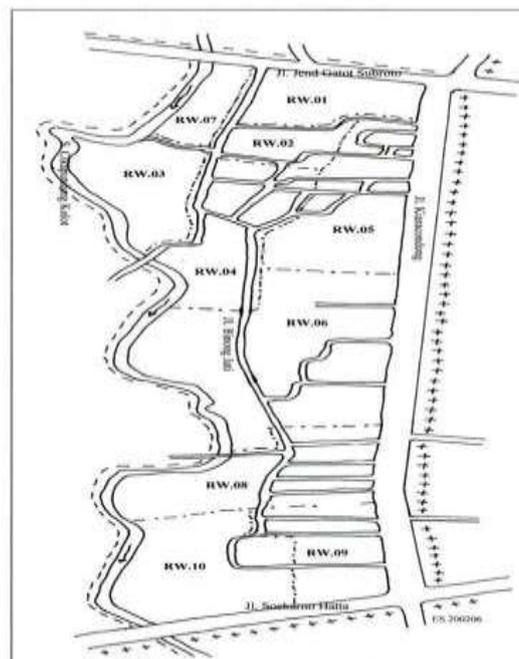
Table 1.  
 Area of Each Subdistrict in Batununggal District Bandung in 2022

No	Village	Area (km <sup>2</sup> /sq.km)	Percentage
1.	Gumuruh	0,96	18,22
2.	Binong	0,72	13,66
3.	Kebon Gedang	0,29	5,50
4.	Maleer	0,38	7,21
5.	Cibangkong	0,64	12,14
6.	Samoja	0,54	10,25
7.	Kacapiring	0,78	14,80
8.	Kebon Waru	0,96	18,22

Source : Central Bureau of Statistics, 2022

The number of RWs (Rukun Warga) and RTs (Rukun Tetangga) in Binong Village, Batununggal District, Bandung City in 2022 will be 10 RWs and 72 RTs with a total of 5,104 KK (Family Cards), the number of permanent residents of Indonesian citizens is 5,104. the number of permanent residents is Indonesian citizens 15,246 residents (BPS 2022). Most residents in the Binong area are traders with regional tourism being knitting centers. Knitting from Binong Village has penetrated the national and international markets (Warren 2023). The following is a map of the Binong Village area, Batununggal District, Bandung City.

Figure 2.  
 Area of Each Subdistrict in Batununggal District Bandung in 2022



Source : batununggal.go.id, 2023



On this map, researchers conducted research in Citizens Association 08 and Citizens Association 10, Binong Subdistrict, because these are the areas affected by the government's eviction of residents to control pollution and damage to the Citarum River Watershed with current conditions. The Citizens Association 8 and Citizens Association 10 areas are areas directly bordering the Citarum River.

The history of the Citarum River begins in the 5th century AD when Jayasingawarman built a small village on the banks of this river. Over time, this small hamlet developed into a large kingdom, namely the Tarumanegara Kingdom. The Tarumanegara Kingdom is the oldest Hindu kingdom in West Java (Tifani 2022).

In the 15th century, the Citarum River became the territorial boundary between the Galuh Kingdom and the Sunda Kingdom. The Galuh Kingdom is located to the west of the river, while the Sunda Kingdom is located to the east of the river. During the Dutch colonial period, the Citarum River was used as a source of drinking water, irrigation, and transportation. This river is also used for the textile and sugar industries. During independence, the Citarum River remained an important resource for the people of West Java. This river is used for various purposes, such as agriculture, industry, and electricity generation (Tifani 2022).

The Citarum River has great natural resource potential. This river has abundant water reserves, which can be used for various purposes, such as agriculture, industry, and power generation. This river also has the potential for fisheries and tourism development. The Citarum River is used for various purposes, including irrigation, electricity generation, fisheries, etc. (Tifani 2022).

The Citarum River is a source of irrigation water for agricultural land in West Java. This river irrigates around 2.5 million hectares of agricultural land. The Citarum River is also used for various agricultural purposes, such as irrigation, transportation, and processing of agricultural waste. The Citarum River is used by various industries, such as the textile, sugar, and ceramic industries. These industries use river water for the production process (Tifani 2022).

The Citarum River is also used for hydroelectric power generation. This river has the potential to produce around 1,200 megawatts of electricity. The Citarum River has the potential for fisheries development. This river has various types of fish, such as goldfish, tilapia, and gourami. The Citarum River also has potential for tourism development. This river has various tourist attractions, such as Situ Gede, Situ Ciburuy, and Situ Lembang (Tifani 2022).

However, the Citarum River is facing various problems, namely poor water quality because it is polluted due to exposure to industrial waste, household waste, and agricultural waste. The resulting deforestation around the Citarum River causes floods and landslides. Apart from that, the development unmeasurable, uncontrolled development around the Citarum River causes the narrowing of the river and a decrease in water quality (Tifani 2022).

The government's efforts are implementing the Harum Citarum Program. The Citarum Harum Program is a government program to improve the water quality of the Citarum River. This program started in 2018 and will last for 10 years. Apart from that, a reforestation program was carried out to restore the function of the forest around the Citarum River, and then infrastructure development, such as dams and irrigation channels, was carried out to improve the management of the Citarum River (Tifani 2022).

The Citarum River is the longest in West Java, Indonesia. This river is 300 kilometers long and flows in 12 districts and cities. Citarum comes from two words, namely "Ci" which means water, and "Tarum" which is the name of the plant that produces indigo color (Tifani 2022).



During the Sunda Kingdom, the Citarum River became the territorial boundary between the Sunda Kingdom and the Galuh Kingdom. This river is also a source of water for the people of the Sunda Kingdom. At that time, Sundanese people used Citarum River water for daily needs, such as irrigation, agriculture, and industry. During Dutch colonialism, the Citarum River became an important source of raw materials for the Dutch textile industry. The Dutch built textile factories along the Citarum River to utilize this river water. As a result, there was quite severe pollution in the Citarum River (Tifani 2022).

During independence, the Citarum River continued to experience pollution. This pollution is caused by various factors, such as industry, agriculture, and household waste. Pollution of the Citarum River has caused various problems, such as flooding, drought, and public health (Tifani 2022).

To realize Presidential Regulation Number 15 of 2018 concerning the Acceleration of Control of Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed, it was reduced to a program called Citarum Harum which is headed by an Officer Unit (Task Force), namely the Governor of West Java. This program can be successful if accompanied by community participation. According to Marschall (2006) is the existence of groups that accommodate community participation, the ability of the community to be involved in the process, and the existence of community activities to express opinions in the decision-making process.

### **The Existence of An Interest Group**

In this case, the Citizens Association in the Binong Subdistrict area formed an informal forum and did not have formal legality, where the forum accommodated community aspirations, based on an informant who wanted his identity hidden, stating that the party from the Forum who complained held hearings up to the Council level. People's Representative. Apart from that, the forum received aspirations that people affected by the eviction of the Citarum river basin be given compensation in the form of housing. But the government replaces it, doesn't it? in exchange for profits, but with mercy money or "close money" whose nominal value is not large. Quoted on the website of the Bandung City Regional People's Representative Council, Deputy Chair II of the Bandung City DPRD, Mr. H. Achmad Nugraha, D. H., S.H. inspecting victims affected by evictions in the Citarum River Basin, and ensuring that the Bandung City Regional Government's stimulant assistance of 7.2 million per year is right on target and will be received by residents in early 2023 (Editor of the Bandung City DPRD 2022). Then this assistance was received by the residents of Binong Village, Bandung City.

### **The Ability of the Community to be Involved in the Process**

Based on the informants I interviewed, the decision to revitalize this river has drawn pros and cons from the community. Pro because some people who do not have land certificates realize that they have occupied state land by mistake, they consciously dismantle their buildings and then resell the remaining materials as additional materials to rent again because they know they will not get compensation money. For the people who are against it because they have lived there for decades, apart from that there is no clarity as to where they will be relocated because there was no such discussion beforehand. This relocation is a serious problem because there are 315 families and 254 residential buildings that have been evicted and have certificates of ownership of the land they are occupying (Koesman 2021).

### **There are Community Activities to Express Opinions in the Decision-Making Process.**

Based on the results of an interview with one of the Binong Village residents, the land acquisition decision did not involve the community. The community is only given socialization that there is Presidential Regulation Number 15 of 2018 concerning the Acceleration of Control of Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed, so that prevention and prohibition are needed for the



community to build buildings in protected function areas. The informant said that many residents were considered squatters because they did not have land certificates, even though they were registered as residents of the area. Iwang Wahyudin as the West Java Advocacy and Campaign Manager for Walhi (Institute for the Environment) gave his view that the Citarum Fragrant program has not been able to solve problems at the grass roots. What can be done is to solve the waste problem from upstream first, because the upstream area has changed a lot at the moment. like a flash flood. Apart from that, the government needs to take firm action against factories that violate the rules or do not obtain AMDAL permits.

#### Post-Eviction Conditions in the Citarum Citizens Association River Basin Area. 10 Current Binong Subdistricts



Source : Documentation by Researcher, 2024

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The participation of the Binong Village community in the Accelerated Control of Pollution and Damage to the Citarum River Watershed program showed a variety of responses. The formation of a forum at the RW level is a forum for the community to express their aspirations, but this forum needs to be supported by strengthening community capacity, both in terms of knowledge, skills, and communication abilities, so that the compensation received is in line with expectations, however, some people are pro because they are aware of the mistake of occupying state land, they do not support the existence of this forum.

The ability of the community to be involved in the decision process also creates dynamics. The river revitalization process has pros and cons, especially regarding land ownership. Land acquisition does not always involve communities in decision-making, creating dissatisfaction and uncertainty regarding relocation. Community activities to express opinions on the decision process highlight the importance of more active involvement in formulating solutions. Socialization needs to be increased, and government action must be more proactive, especially regarding the problem of waste from upstream and enforcing regulations for factories that violate it. Overall, community participation plays a crucial role in the success of the program to control pollution and damage to the Citarum River Basin. The existence of forums and community aspirations must be taken into serious consideration in policymaking while strengthening socialization and active involvement in decision-making can increase the effectiveness of the program.



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