

INTEGRATED POLICY AND ACCELERATION OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT BORDER AREA

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ABSTRACT. *Efforts to balance the acceleration of border region become a very important aspect for it is related to some aspects such as political, social-cultural and security aspects.*

Political aspect is related to the relation between states whose formally borders separating the states, particularly Indonesia-Malaysia and Thailand, promoting nasionalism of the citizens, because whether directly or indirectly, it will be influenced by the condition of the geographically bordering state, for the development of economic cooperation and cultural development, since the states have similar history and language.

The aspects of economy, social-culture and environment and is the dominant factor of state border issue related to the inter-citizen relations who are historically blood-related, therefore the daily connection does not show any inter-state difference. The increase in the three-country relation is possibly influence by some factors, however the commitment of the national cooperation among the three countries becomes the model to be developed intensively in the regional cooperation.

The cooperation model of triangle border region of three countries can be realized when each country respects the sovereignty of each state along with the acceleration on the growth of respective countries.

Specifically, the writing discusses about the integrated and accelerated development to be implemented technically and geographically by the regional government in Indonesia's Sumatera Island such as Aceh, North Sumatera, West Sumatera, Riau, Jambi, South Sumatera, Bangka Belitung, Islands of Riau, and Lampung, particularly in exploring the economic, social-cultural potential that geographically give direct and indirect benefit in the strategy of border regional cooperation.

Keywords: *integrated policy and acceleration of development*

TEORITICAL REVIEW

Integrated policy, acceleration development, strengthening local government (individual, structural system).

DISCUSSION

Integrated policy of infrastructure development, ideally requires physical infrastructure that can support the economic growth in 10 provinces in Sumatera Island. The impact of this integrated policy in infrastructure directly or indirectly can support the economic and cultural growth.

Integrated policy development, in fact, is possible since almost all provinces hold the excellence in crops, superior horticultural commodity, superior plantation commodity, superior forestry commodity, superior husbandry commodity, superior fishery commodity.

Those superiority can be potential for the regional economic growth and directly and indirectly be the elevation of welfare for people as well. The things should be done by the government are the measures to accelerate the development in each province to be realized as the manifestation of governmental side in facing the cooperation with neighboring countries especially with Malaysia. Therefore the regional government in Sumatera Island hold competitive value equal to the neighboring countries to hold the equal bargaining position.

The integrated policy in the development of physical infrastructure including road, bridge and transportation infrastructure and others that can ease the flow of goods and service is necessary, therefore it can create the acceleration of balanced development in each region.

The unbalance regional condition can be hindered with integrated policy development and the acceleration of development.

Other target is the aspect of state administration especially the strengthening of regional capacity to hold supporting measures against the demand dealt with. The strengthening as argued by Hildebrand includes individual, bureaucracy, and system aspects.

Border Region Issue

As Iwan Nugraha and Rokhmin Dahuri argued (2012:356) “there are five issues of border region. They are:”

First, Globalization marked with the free trade phenomenon, along with international information technology, so that the discrepancy of social economic among countries, especially neighboring countries such as Malaysia and Thailand.

Second, Issue of infrastructure, especially transportation, interborder post, communication and information.

Third, the quality of human resources at the border region is still low and unequal.

Fourth, the law enforcement upon the culprit of illegal logging, illegal fishing, and human trafficking.

Fifth, synchronization of policies is not reached yet.

In fact, when further noticed, those issues can be developed by adding some other issues, such as:

Sixth, it is necessary to identify economic potential and infrastructure development and spatial design and to have law enforcement and to determine the state border.

Seventh, the border region is strategic defense region.

Principles of Development policy at the border area (Bapenas 2003) are as follows:

1. Realizing border region as countries front yard;
2. Balancing the objective of people welfare and defense;
3. Protecting natural resources at borders through conservation area and national park management;
4. Sharing roles and power among the central, provincial, municipal governments and private institution;
5. Involving local community in planning and implementation;
6. Increasing systemic cooperation with bordering states.

Thus, the development strategy at border region is directed to:

1. Reduce imbalance in the acceleration of development;
2. Increase accessibility to the region and public facilities at the border;
3. Implement foreign cooperation in trade, economy, and investment at the border;
4. Enforce law and security at the border;
5. Manage the institutional management and power at the border effectively.

Policy and strategy of development should be able to answer the demand and challenge developed in the community especially at the border.

Bambang Saputra (2015) research showed that community activity always looks for what more beneficial for them, especially in fulfilling their life necessities.

In Sebatik Island, people living in Indonesian land go to Tawaw every morning to do their economic activities. It is because Tawaw, Malaysia provides all commodities to fulfill their daily necessities and in addition, the price is relatively cheaper due to the royal subsidies.

This condition actually should be considered and needs a strategic policy from the government of Indonesia to handle. This is the imbalance occurring in one point of border.

From the policy and strategy, it is necessary to discuss about the acceleration of inter-regions development at the border, therefore it has a balance rhythm to avoid imbalance regional.

The provinces in Sumatera Island geographically is so close to the IMT-GT zone, and should empower all the potential both physical and non-physical so that it can directly show the performance and hold the significant competitive power at the border.

Empirically, it can be argued that factors of working and living culture and communication can influence the motivation and innovation: government innovation and community innovation.

The understanding and the objectives expected from the regional cooperation model of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand Growth Triangel (IMT_GT) still needs socialization massive to the whole stakeholders.

Other strategic steps related to IMT-GT model is the need of strategic and integrated policy so that all stakeholders have the same understanding and paradigm about state borders.

The similarity in the perspective is very crucial in setting future strategy. For example, what previously is “inward looking” should be changed into “inward looking and outward looking simultaneously” in dealing with other countries at the border to hold the same standing position.