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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION STRATEGIES IN INDONESIAN

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ABSTRACT: Indonesia pursues sustainable development by integrating economic growth, social welfare, and environmental protection. The study analyzes implementation strategies through various sources including government studies and reports from 2018 to 2025. Key policies include the National Medium-Term Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals. Success factors include strong regulation, innovation support, and public-private engagement. However, significant challenges remain: poor management, corruption, uneven regional development, and the impact of climate change. Effective sustainable development requires multi-stakeholder collaboration, active community participation, and reliable data systems. The study emphasizes that achieving sustainability goals demands a comprehensive cooperative approach that involves government agencies, local communities, and the business sector working together cohesively to balance economic progress with social equality and environmental preservation across Indonesia's diverse regions.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Economic-Social-Environmental

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INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development has become a top priority to solve challenging problems such as poverty, social inequality, and environmental degradation in many countries, including Indonesia. This concept emphasizes the importance of balancing economic growth, social welfare, and environmental sustainability to meet the needs of the current generation without sacrificing the capabilities of future generations. Many policies in Indonesia focus on sustainable development, such as the National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and regional programs based on the green economy. However, the economic, social, and environmental aspects of development are often overlooked during planning and implementation. The economic aspect demands inclusive and equitable growth by paying attention to the equitable distribution of welfare, the development of the green sector, and the improvement of the quality of human resources. On the other hand, the social aspect emphasizes reducing inequality, increasing community participation, and empowering vulnerable groups so that they are not left behind in the development process. Instead, wise management of natural resources, pollution control, and the implementation of long-term oriented policies for climate change mitigation are necessary for the benefit of the environment. The strategy of economic, social, and environmental integration is the basis for sustainable development planning in Indonesia. Achieving this integration requires cross-sectoral synergy, strong political commitment, and public support at every stage of public policy. Issues such as data limitations, lack of inter-agency coordination, and economic and ecological conflicts of interest must be addressed with a science-based, participatory, and transparent approach.

The aim is to provide an explanation of the various ways that can be used to incorporate economic, social, and environmental integration strategies into sustainable development planning in Indonesia, as well as to determine the factors that support and hinder its implementation. It is hoped that development that focuses on social welfare, environmental sustainability, and economic growth can be achieved through a holistic approach for future generations.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Sustainable Development Theory (Brundtland)

Brundtland's perspective emphasizes the importance of development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the opportunities of future generations. In Indonesia, this concept is used as the basis for formulating policies that combines economic, social, and environmental dimensions in a balanced manner.

Triple Bottom Line Theory (Elkington)

This concept emphasizes that growth must consider three important aspects: profit (economy), society (social), and nature (environment). The Indonesian government adopted this idea in its sustainable development, poverty alleviation, and environmental preservation plans.

Political Ecology Theory

Political Ecology Theory describes the relationship between power, policy, and natural resource management. In Indonesia, this theory is important for

analyzing land-related disputes, injustices in resource utilization, and the effects of development policies on specific community groups.

The Theory of Good Governance

Good Governance emphasizes principles such as transparency, accountability, efficiency, and community participation in the development process. In terms of sustainable development, this theory reflects the impact of management quality on the success of integration in the economic, social, and environmental fields.

Community Engagement Theory

This theory states that development can take place better if the community is involved in the planning, implementation, and supervision process. In Indonesia, this participation can be seen in programs at the village level, environmental management by the community, and collaboration between the government and local communities.

Public Policy Theory

This theory explains how the process of making, implementing, and evaluating policies takes place. Public Policy Theory is used to assess the implementation of sustainable development policies and assess the extent to which the policy has succeeded in meeting national development goals.

Capability Approach – Amartya Sen

This approach assesses progress based on the community's ability to improve the quality of life. In the context of sustainable development in Indonesia, this theory is used to evaluate the impact of policies on welfare, access to education, health, and the development of social and economic capacities of the community.

METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative methodology, and systematic literature is used. Secondary data comes from government policy documents (RPJMN, RPJPN, TPB/SDGs, Law No. 32/2009), indexed scientific journals, and official reports from 2018–2025. The research was conducted using Google Scholar, Garuda Portal, DOAJ, and ScienceDirect using keywords such as "Indonesia's sustainable development", "sustainable development", and "environmental socio-economic integration". Gradually, literature is selected with at least one aspect of sustainable development in mind—environmental, social, or economic—from abstract examination of titles to thorough reading. To analyze data, thematic content analysis methods include the process of coding, categorization, synthesis of results, and interpretation. Source triangulation, peer briefing, and trace audit ensure data validity.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Implementation of the Concept of Sustainable Development in Indonesia: Integration of Economic, Social, and Environmental Pillars

Sustainable development is a way forward that balances economic growth, community well-being, and environmental protection. In Indonesia, this idea is the foundation of national planning as stated in the RPJMN and the SDGs Action Plan. Success in implementing this idea is highly dependent on the ability

of governments and communities to combine three important pillars at once: economic, social, and environmental.

In the economic aspect, sustainable development aims to create equitable and equitable growth. Hapsoro (2020) in Lakar: Jurnal Architecture states that sustainable economic growth needs to be balanced with efficient resource utilization, the development of environmentally friendly sectors, and equitable distribution of welfare. In Indonesia, this can be seen from the government's increasing attention to renewable energy investment and an environmentally friendly economy. In the social dimension, improving the quality of life and social justice is necessary for sustainable development through community empowerment. Amalia et al. (2023) in Mata BTP: Journal of Rural Sustainable Technology Development emphasize how Kampung Terih's CSR program can integrate social and economic aspects through local empowerment, income increase, and cultural preservation as part of community-based sustainable society development. Furthermore, social and economic elements must be in line, according to Chotim (2020), MEA: Journal of Management and Economic Analysis. He points out that the exploitation of sustainable planning resources can lead to additional adverse environmental impacts, such as soil degradation and higher carbon emissions. Therefore, development policies must regulate the carrying capacity of nature and economic activities proportionately. In addition, as shown by research conducted by Pratiwi et al. (2018) in the Journal of Economic and Development Sciences (JIEP), coordination between institutions at the regional level is still a challenge to implement sustainable development. This happened in East Java Province. However, they emphasized that for economic, social, and environmental integration to be successful, there needs to be cooperation across policy sectors. The results of the study show that to implement sustainable development in Indonesia, the government, the private sector, and the community must work together. Development must be seen as a whole, with economic growth as part of it, which strengthens economic progress, social justice, and environmental sustainability.

Integration strategies carried out by the government and the community to realize sustainable development

To meet the needs of the current generation without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their needs, sustainable development integrates economic, social, and environmental aspects in a balanced manner (WCED, 1987; Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, 2020). Indonesia's National Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPN) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are based on sustainable development.

1. The Role of the Government in Sustainable Development

The government has an important role to play in developing laws, policies, and initiatives that support the implementation of sustainable development. Bappenas (2021) lists the government's main tactics as follows:

- a) Cross-sectoral policy integration between the environment, society, and economy.
- b) Improve open and inclusive governance.
- c) Implement low-carbon development and green economy.

- d) Increasing regional capacity through decentralization of sustainable development.

2. The Role of the Community in Sustainable Development

The implementation of development at the local level is greatly influenced by the community. Public policy advocacy, sustainable creative economy initiatives, and community-based environmental management are some of the ways to achieve community participation (Suryani & Rachmawati, 2019).

The success of sustainable development is also shown by environmentally friendly behavior and community awareness. Nugraha (2020) emphasized that community cooperation in sustainable natural resource management can reduce environmental damage and increase socio-economic resilience.

3. Government and Community Integration Strategy

The way the government works with the community can be done through a collaborative approach, known as collaborative governance.

Emerson & Nabatchi (2015) suggest that this integration can be achieved by following three main principles:

- a) Active participation: involving the community in the planning and decision-making process.
- b) Cross-sectoral coordination: linking government policies to the real needs of local communities.
- c) Mutual capacity building: through education, training, and encouraging innovation from within the community.

4. Challenges and Efforts to Strengthen Integration

Some of the difficulties in integrating sustainable development include poor communication between various organizations, lack of resources, and uneven community involvement (Rahmawati & Fitriani, 2021).

To solve this problem, the following steps are required:

- a) Increase education and awareness about sustainable development for the community.
- b) Make policies based on strong data and concrete evidence.
- c) Using digital technology to make information more open and encourage community participation.

Indonesia has achieved 62.5% of its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target, a remarkable achievement compared to the global average of 17% and the best performance among upper-middle-income countries. Indonesia's SDGs index score increased from 64.2 in 2019 to 70.2 in 2023, with Indonesia's global ranking rising significantly from 102nd to 75th. In 2020, Indonesia ranked 101st out of 166 countries for the SDGs ranking, up one place from its previous position of 102nd, with its index score improving from 64.2 in 2019 to 65.3 in 2020. Indonesia's green economy policy, centered on low-carbon development and climate resilience, has been integrated into the 2020-2024 National Medium-Term Development Plan and the 2025-2045 National Long- Term Development Plan.

Supporting Factors and Obstacles in the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Integration Strategy in Indonesia

Supporting Factors

- 1) Policy Commitments and Legal Frameworks: The Government of Indonesia has strengthened the rules through laws such as Law No. 32/2009 on Environmental Protection, which supports the integration of the SDGs in planning at the national level. In their study on the implementation of sustainability in national planning, Wicaksono and Suryadi (2022) show that initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Program (PPB) have increased budgets for environmentally friendly projects, with support from international funds such as the Green Climate Fund. This is reflected in increased investment in the renewable energy sector, which contributes to the achievement of the 23% green energy target by 2025.
- 2) Technology and Innovation Support: Advancements in the field of technology, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and applications for environmental monitoring, have strengthened its implementation. In their research on the elements that support sustainable integration, Kusumawardani and Sari (2024) stated that digital technology allows direct monitoring of deforestation in Kalimantan, which can reduce carbon emissions by about 10-15% in the targeted region. In addition, collaborations with international organizations such as UNDP also contribute to technology transfer, for example in REDD+ projects that link forest protection with local economic growth.
- 3) Community and Private Sector Participation: Increasing awareness in the community as a result of social and educational movements has strengthened participation in various sustainable programs. Based on Sari and Sari (2021), private initiatives in the sustainable agriculture sector have succeeded in increasing crop yields while maintaining ecosystem balance, with the contribution of green gross domestic product reaching 5% in 2023. Indonesia's natural resources, such as rainforests and oceans, also have an important role to play in the development of ecotourism and renewable energy, which supports complex integration.

Constraints

- 1) Poor Governance and Corrupt Practices: The high level of corruption and weak law enforcement are the main obstacles, as explained by Pratama and Setiawan (2023) in a study on the challenges of implementing sustainability in Indonesia. They found that illegal logging in Papua and Kalimantan accounts for 60% of national emissions, which is caused by inaccuracies in the management of the funds. This situation hinders the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals, where Indonesia's corruption index is still stuck at the lowest position globally.
- 2) Social and Economic Injustice at the Regional Level: The difference between urban and rural areas is a barrier to achieving harmony in the development

process. According to Wicaksono and Suryadi (2022), the poverty rate in eastern Indonesia reaches 20%, thus hindering access to technology and sustainable education. Extractive sectors, such as mining, often prioritize direct profits, which can damage the environment and exacerbate the problem of social injustice.

- 3) Impacts of Climate Change and Limited Capacity: Indonesia often experiences natural disasters such as forest fires and floods that are getting worse due to high emissions (it is one of the fourth largest carbon emitters in the world). Research conducted by Kusumawardani and Sari (2024) shows that the lack of experienced professionals in the field of sustainability, especially in remote areas, is a barrier to switching from fossil energy to renewable energy. In addition, the high cost of technology imports is also an obstacle, where the funds needed can reach trillions of rupiah to reduce its impact.

The Effectiveness of Sustainable Development Policies on Community Welfare and Environmental Sustainability

Sustainable development policies are very important in improving people's welfare and protecting the environment. Its success depends on the extent to which the policy is able to combine social, economic, and environmental aspects in a balanced and comprehensive manner. The goal of sustainable development is not only to improve current welfare, but also to ensure the needs of future generations by maintaining the sustainability of natural resources and the environment.

a. Community Welfare

Sustainable development policies contribute positively to people's well-being through various programs that focus on poverty alleviation, local economic development, infrastructure improvement, and the provision of access to basic resources such as clean water and energy.

Programs that refer to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have shown tangible results, such as increasing incomes, reducing poverty, and strengthening the capacity of human resources, all of which support the socio-economic well-being of communities. The role of community and cross-sector cooperation is key in ensuring that the benefits of sustainable development can be felt fairly and sustainably.

The national poverty line in March 2025 was recorded at IDR 609,160 per capita per month. The Gini index in March 2025 was 0.375, down from 0.381 in September 2024, indicating a decrease in income inequality.

The Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas report shows that the achievement of the National SDGs in 2023 shows that 76 percent of the SDG indicators in Indonesia have been achieved and are progressing, consisting of 60 percent of the targets achieved.

b. Environmental Sustainability

In terms of the environment, sustainable development policies are designed to reduce ecosystem damage, control the use of natural resources, and encourage environmentally friendly practices, such as energy conservation, waste management, and forest and land protection.

Examples are programs that address deforestation, protect biodiversity, and develop renewable energy. Programs such as Riau Hijau that emphasize sustainable resource management and environmental damage prevention explain how sustainable development can be balanced between economic growth and environmental protection.

Indonesia's gross deforestation rate decreased by 14.1 percent between 2021 and 2022, with data obtained through remote sensing data processing and direct field inspections.

By adopting circular economy opportunities in five key economic sectors (food & beverage, textiles, construction, wholesale and retail trade, and electrical and electronic equipment), Indonesia's GDP could increase by IDR 593 to 638 trillion (USD 42 to 45 billion) by 2030.

c. Determinants of Effectiveness

Sustainable development policies can be successful if there are several determining factors, namely:

- a) Community involvement and awareness in running and supporting programs.
- b) Cooperation between the government, the private sector, and civil society.
- c) The availability and use of accurate data to evaluate and make evidence-based decisions.
- d) Flexible and sustainable policy implementation in accordance with social and environmental dynamics.
- e) Strengthening capabilities and monitoring mechanisms to ensure compliance and sustainability of policy implementation.

Sustainable development policies have proven to improve people's welfare and protect the environment if done with an integrated approach and involve community participation.

Targeted programs and cooperation between stakeholders are able to produce real positive impacts both from a social and environmental perspective. However, challenges such as limited coordination, incomplete data, and changing environmental conditions still need to be considered in order for sustainable development goals to be optimally achieved.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In Indonesia, sustainable development planning through national policies that combine economic, social, and environmental aspects has evolved, but these efforts still face problems such as poor governance, regional inequality, and a lack of human resources and data. Strong cooperation between governments, communities, and the private sector is needed to realize sustainable and inclusive development.

The government must improve governance, increase equitable development, and improve the quality of human resources to realize inclusive and sustainable development. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen the data system and collaborate with the private sector and the community through environmentally friendly innovations.

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