

# Model of Strengthening The Constitutional Rights of The Community Through Village Fund Supervisory Groups as An Effort to Prevent Corruption

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## Abstract

This research discusses the management of Village Funds in Indonesia, focusing on the challenges of misuse that lead to criminal acts of corruption. Village Funds, allocated at Rp71 trillion for the 2025 fiscal year, are intended to support the development and empowerment of village communities. However, corruption practices in the management of Village Funds remain a major issue that harms the state and society. The research method used in this study is the normative juridical research method, which emphasizes the study of existing legal norms, both in legislation and relevant legal principles. One of the proposed solutions is the strengthening of the constitutional rights of village communities through the establishment of Village Fund Supervisory Groups (KPPD), aimed at increasing community participation in the oversight, transparency, and accountability of Village Fund management. In addition, this study promotes the application of principles of good governance, such as transparency, accountability, participation, and the rule of law as the normative foundation to ensure that the allocation and use of Village Funds are oriented toward public welfare and free from abuse. This research uses a normative juridical approach to analyze regulations governing Village Funds, the constitutional rights of village communities, and the principles of good governance as the basis for oversight and management. The goal of this study is to propose a model for strengthening the supervision of Village Funds through the Village Fund Supervisory Groups (KPPD), and to provide policy recommendations aimed at reducing corruption and improving the welfare of village communities.

**Keywords:** Community Participation; Constitutional Right; Corruption Prevention; Village Fund Supervision.

## 1. Introduction

If today we talk about a country called the Republic of Indonesia, then we will talk a lot about corruption, bribery, and so on, one of which is village fund corruption (Muhtar 2019). The implementation of village duties and functions in the administration and development of the village in all its aspects, in accordance with the authority granted by Law Number (Nurita and Sugiarto 2018) 6 of 2014 concerning Villages mandates the Government to allocate Village Funds (Kementerian Keuangan Republik Indonesia 2017). The Village Fund for the 2025 fiscal year is set at IDR 71 trillion, consisting of IDR 69 trillion calculated from the previous fiscal year and IDR 2 trillion calculated from the current year, regulated by the Minister of Finance Regulation, prioritized for village development implementation and community empowerment. However, several issues are still encountered, including improper usage not in accordance with regulations, usage not yielding prioritized outputs from the Village Fund, expenditures not supported by evidence, taxes not in accordance with regulations, and others (Widyastuti, Wisanggeni, and Rejeki 2025). Out of 591 verdicts in village fund corruption cases (2015-2024), the state has suffered a loss of Rp 598.13 billion, with the perpetrators being village heads, village treasurers, and other village officials.

With these various issues, monitoring and supervision of the use of Village Funds are needed to prevent misuse that leads to corruption, whether committed by village officials or stakeholders involved and authorized in using the Village Funds (Dwi Winarni 2018), can be suppressed. One of them is the strengthening of the constitutional rights of rural communities that have been mandated in our constitution, the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, as stated in Article 28 on Human Rights: "The freedom to associate and assemble, to express thoughts orally and in writing, and so on, shall be regulated by law." Democracy in a country is marked by several things, namely the existence of general elections, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and association, freedom of opinion, and the enforcement of the law (Mambaul, Muslimin, and Nurita 2020). The right to assemble and associate, as well as the freedom to express opinions, are manifestations of democracy (Danasastro 2016). Democracy in a country can also be realized through the monitoring and supervision of the Village Fund conducted by the participation of village communities through legitimate Village Fund supervisory groups. This is a reinforcement of the constitutional rights of the community to continue overseeing and monitoring the use of Village Funds. Monitoring is an important stage to ensure that the allocation of Village Funds can serve as an instrument for income distribution in the village and

improve the welfare of the village community (Yuliana 2020). Monitoring and supervision are also aimed at identifying any deviations early on (Mardiana and Puspita 2019).

Furthermore, in the context of Village Fund management, the application of principles of public interest and legal certainty is highly relevant to ensure that the funds are utilized effectively and responsibly (Asmawi 2009). Principles of public interest and social welfare can serve as guiding norms in the management of Village Funds. These principles emphasize that policies or actions, even when not explicitly detailed in statutory regulations, should be directed toward achieving the greatest benefit for the community. In this context, the management of Village Funds must prioritize outcomes that enhance the quality of life, social equity, and economic development at the village level, given that these funds represent a vital instrument for advancing rural prosperity (Mada, Kalangi, and Gamaliel 2017).

Therefore, policies related to Village Funds should not only focus on fulfilling formal legal obligations but also embody the principles of public interest and social responsibility, ensuring that the managed funds are genuinely directed toward the greater good, namely, the overall welfare and sustainable development of the village community (Ramadhan, Y, and Aksa 2021).

Transparent and accountable monitoring and supervision of the use of Village Funds, in this case, can be seen as an effort to create broader social and economic welfare (Lestari, Imron, and Indartini 2025). Through supervision that actively involves the village community, we can ensure that the funds are used for development projects that provide sustainable, positive impacts (Umaira and Adnan 2019).

In addition, this strengthening of oversight will also help prevent corrupt practices that harm the state and village communities, while ensuring that the allocation of Village Funds not only complies with legal standards but also serves a broader objective of promoting fair and equitable welfare for all members of the village community (Nurhayati and Saleh Ridwan 2019).

In this context, the management policy of Village Funds should be grounded in the principle of prioritizing the public interest over personal or group interests, ensuring that all decisions related to the use of funds contribute to the collective welfare and equitable development of the village community (Ahmad 2014). This includes the use of Village Funds for projects that directly benefit the community, such as village infrastructure development, economic empowerment programs, and improved access to education and healthcare services. Therefore, the principle of public interest not only serves as a moral and ethical foundation but also functions as a key instrument in realizing equitable and sustainable development that aligns with the nation's overarching goal namely, the welfare of the people (Dwi Winarni 2018).

## 2. Method

The problem-solving approach used is the normative legal research or library approach, which is defined as legal research conducted by examining library materials or secondary data consisting of primary legal materials, secondary legal materials, and tertiary legal materials. These materials are systematically organized, studied, and then conclusions are drawn in relation to the problem being researched (Marzuki 2010). This study aims to combat corruption by analyzing literature on bolstering community constitutional rights through village fund supervisory organizations. The Statute Approach (Legislative Approach) involves reviewing statutes and regulations, including the 1945 Constitution of Indonesia, Law Number 6 of 2014, and Government Regulation Number 45 of 2017. The Case Approach examines cases of corruption committed by village officials. This research involves categorizing legal materials based on study issues, systematizing results, and analyzing systematized materials for conclusions. Systematic interpretation is used to analyze laws in relation to regulations, while the Teleological/Sociological Interpretation Method aligns legislation with societal goals, aiming to understand its meaning and align it with societal needs.

On the other hand, within the framework of public law and good governance, the concept of public interest, particularly interests that are not explicitly regulated but align with constitutional and legal principles, can serve as an important foundation to guide the supervision of Village Funds (I. Rosyadi 2013). In the context of public policy, the concept of public interest is generally understood as any measure that promotes benefits and prevents harm for individuals and society as a whole, encompassing both personal and communal aspects (Ahmad 2014). This principle is relevant to the objectives of monitoring Village Funds, which not only refers to existing regulations but also aims to realize greater welfare for the village community (Yarni, Kosariza, and Irwandi 2019). Village Fund management policies should prevent harm and maximize benefits for the village community, even in areas not regulated by statutory provisions. Participatory supervision is crucial to strengthen constitutional rights and promote inclusive governance. Supervision should not only ensure compliance with law but also promote social justice and equitable development at the village level, reflecting the state's constitutional obligation to promote general welfare and resource distribution.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Constitutional Rights of Community Participation in Indonesia

Community participation in public decision-making is an important component in any democratic system of government. In the context of Indonesia, public participation refers to the involvement of individuals or groups in the policy-making processes that affect their lives, both at the local and national levels. This participation can be carried out through various forms, such as public consultations, involvement in general elections, and oversight of government policies (Budi and H. M Purnomo 2018). Community participation in the Indonesian legal system has been clearly regulated in various laws and regulations, ranging from the constitution to more specific laws. However, in practice, there are several challenges that hinder the optimal implementation of community participation. This paper will discuss the legal regulations regarding community participation in Indonesia, the forms of participation regulated by law, the obstacles faced, and the efforts to optimize such participation (Ibrahim 2017).

Community participation is not only limited to the right to vote in elections, but also includes the right to express opinions, provide input in public policy, and take part in overseeing the administration of government. According to Roberts, public participation in policy-making is a process where the community is not only an object of policy but also an active subject in determining the direction of that policy. This reflects a shift from top-down governance to governance that involves active participation from the community (Sutrisno and Nuraini 2020). This participation can be distinguished into two main forms, namely direct participation and indirect participation. Direct participation occurs when the community is directly involved in decision-making, such as in public consultations or regional budget preparations. Meanwhile, indirect participation occurs through representatives elected in elections or representatives appointed to voice the community's interests in the legislative and decision-making processes (Syamsi 2015).

Forms of Community Participation in the Indonesian Legal System include (Fitriani and Hasan 2021): First, elections and regional elections, general elections (Pemilu) and regional head elections (Pilkada) are the main forms of political participation for the Indonesian

people. Elections in Indonesia allow citizens to elect representatives in legislative bodies and executive leaders, a right regulated by Law Number 7 of 2017. Public participation is also reflected in public consultations and legal outreach, such as the Draft Law (RUU) process and legal outreach. Public involvement in government oversight and accountability ensures transparency and accountability. The Corruption Eradication Commission, Ombudsman, and Financial Audit Agency monitor government policies, while Law Number 25 of 2004 mandates development planning consultations involving the community. Community participation is crucial for the administration of a democratic state, and Indonesia ensures this through various laws and regulations. This allows citizens to engage in various aspects of national and state life.

The regulation of this participation involves the right to express opinions, participate in elections, provide input in public policies, and oversee the functioning of the government (Wahyudi 2022). To understand more deeply, here is an explanation regarding the legal basis that regulates community participation in Indonesia, which includes the 1945 Constitution, related laws, and more detailed government regulations, namely (Jaya and Parsa 2015): The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD 1945) guarantees public participation in national and state life, ensuring freedom of opinion and participation in society, nation, and state. Article 28E Paragraph (3) and 28B Paragraph (1) ensure citizens can express their ideas and criticisms regarding government policies. Law Number 59 of 2024, enacted in 2024, updates the National Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPN) and promotes public participation in long-term planning, reaffirming Indonesia's commitment to inclusive, participatory, and sustainable development (Nurwanda 2018).

Forms of community participation regulated in Law Number 59 of 2024 include several mechanisms that can be utilized by the community to contribute to the planning and evaluation of the National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJPN), including the Development Planning Deliberation (Musrenbang). Musrenbang is one of the important forums regulated in this law, where people from various strata can provide input and suggestions regarding the development plans to be implemented by the government. The Musrenbang is conducted at the village, sub-district, district/city, and provincial levels, as well as at the national level. Community involvement in this Musrenbang allows for more in-depth discussions regarding development programs that align with the needs of the community (Ishardino 2012). Public Consultation and Discussion Forums, Law Number 59 of 2024 provides a broader space for the organization of public consultations that can be conducted by the government by directly involving the community. Discussion forums like these allow the public to engage in open dialogue with the government about development policies that are currently being implemented or will be implemented. This process also provides an opportunity for the public to express their opinions and criticisms regarding existing policies (Damanik 2017). Counseling and Education for the Community, To improve the quality of community participation, the government through various ministries and agencies conducts counseling and education for the community regarding the importance of participation in development. This can be done through community-based counseling programs, leadership training, and seminars aimed at enhancing the community's understanding of the planning and supervision processes in development (Sampurno, Kusumandyoko, and Islam 2020). The Indonesian government has utilized digital technology to facilitate public participation in the RPJPN, allowing online consultations and discussions. This includes the creation of applications and websites for public input. The public has the right to submit petitions or objections against policies that do not align with their needs or interests. The Public Information Disclosure Law ensures citizens have the right to access information related to government policies and activities, allowing them to actively monitor and provide input on existing policies. (Zainal 2016).

Government Regulation Number 41 of 2009 on Guidelines for the Management of Socio-Economic Activities Beneficial to the Community. This Government Regulation provides guidelines for the government and related institutions to manage activities involving the community, both in terms of planning, implementation, and evaluation of socio-economic activities. One form of community participation regulated in this regulation is through discussion forums or deliberations that involve the community in the planning stage. Article 4 states that every project carried out must involve the community as part of the planning and decision-making process related to the socio-economic impacts that will occur (Nugraha and Dahuri 2014) Law Number 23 of 2014 on Regional Government. The Regional Government Law regulates public participation in the administration of regional government. The local government is obliged to provide opportunities for the community to participate in decision-making related to regional policies, such as through the Musrenbang mechanism and through regional regulations concerning public interests. Article 3 stipulates that in the formulation of regional policies, local governments are required to consider the aspirations of the community through consultation forums and deliberations (Beierle 2002).

Law Number 30 of 2014 on Government Administration, this law provides a legal basis for the public to participate in government administration, including submitting requests or objections related to public services. In this case, public participation is regulated within government administration procedures that must be transparent and accountable. Article 22 regulates the public's right to submit information requests or objections against government administration services that do not comply with the provisions. Community-based oversight of public funds is not unique to Indonesia but has become part of a broader global governance trend emphasizing transparency, accountability, and the democratization of budget management. One of the most prominent examples is the participatory budgeting model developed in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in the late 1980s, where citizens were directly involved in deciding budget priorities and monitoring implementation. This mechanism has been shown to enhance the legitimacy of government decisions, increase public trust, and reduce opportunities for corruption, as every stage of the budgeting process is subject to public scrutiny. The success of participatory budgeting in Brazil later inspired other Latin American countries such as Argentina, Peru, and Mexico to adopt similar approaches, each tailored to their respective sociopolitical contexts. In Africa, countries such as Uganda and Kenya have also institutionalized community monitoring mechanisms in village-level development funds, granting local communities formal authority to deliberate and oversee budget allocation. Empirical studies in these contexts demonstrate that when citizens are given access to information and decision-making processes, development outcomes improve significantly, while the risk of fund mismanagement is reduced (Cabannes 2021). These international experiences indicate that participatory oversight is not only a normative expression of constitutional rights but also an empirically effective global strategy for combating corruption and improving governance quality. In the Indonesian context, the establishment of Village Fund Supervisory Groups (KPPD) can thus be understood as an effort to align community-based monitoring practices with internationally recognized governance standards, reinforcing the principles of transparency, accountability, and inclusive participation in rural development.

The existence of village funds has made the community not only viewed as an object of development but also positioned as a subject of development, so the atmosphere developed in the planning of development truly comes from a bottom-up approach. Korten states that development oriented towards human development, in its implementation, requires direct involvement from the community receiving the development program. One form of social accountability that can be implemented by the community is by participating in development planning deliberations (musrenbag) (Sulaiman et al. 2015). Socially accountable development involves a deliberative process involving all stakeholders, including the government and the community. A reciprocal process between the village government and the community is essential for social accountability. Village officials' awareness of their duties and responsibilities is crucial for participation. They help reduce the gap between the government and the community by providing guidance and understanding. Work also influences community participation in musrenbang (Nasution 2009).

Village officials, who are not civil servants, earn low salaries from the village treasury, making it difficult for them to participate in musrenbang due to their family responsibilities. The community prioritizes their work during harvest season over other activities, affecting their participation. Education level also influences community participation, as knowledge, attitudes, and skills are closely related to education. (Rowe and Frewer 2004). The low level of education in the community leads to a lack of knowledge about the importance of development and a poor understanding of the function of musrenbang. As a result, many community members do not participate in the musrenbang, which leads to a lack of understanding about the use of the funds received in their village. Thus, it creates a perception among the community that the Village Head might misappropriate village funds. What drives community participation in the village development planning meeting (musrenbang) is the leadership of the Village Head. The leadership of the Village Head, who does not adequately socialize the implementation of the village musrenbang to the community. The village government also lacks motivation to invite or encourage the community to participate in the musrenbang (Semaun 2019). This causes many community members who actually intend to participate in the musrenbang, but due to the lack of socialization, motivation from the village government, and the absence of invitations to the community, they are unable to attend the musrenbang. Most of them are only attended by village officials and community elites. The community's awareness of the importance of musrenbang is still low. Therefore, it can be concluded that the factors determining community participation in attending musrenbang are: awareness, employment, politics, education level, and the leadership of the leaders (Ackerman 2005).

According to Bawsir, the purpose of supervision is essentially to observe what truly happens and compare it with what should happen, and to make necessary corrections if there are deviations from the plan. To realize objective, healthy, and responsible supervision, there must be a role for community participation. Community involvement is essential in overseeing village funds to assist the central/regional government (Baswir 1999). Community involvement in the supervision of village funds cannot be taken lightly. The community is both the object and the subject of development prioritized by the existence of village funds. The role of the community in overseeing village funds will minimize the potential for conflict due to the crisis of trust in village fund managers, which has been accused of weakening the socio-cultural fabric of the village community. The community is active in overseeing village funds, but its activity is less effective (Cheng et al. 2002). This is due to the presence of social jealousy and those who want to undermine the leadership of the Village Head. Another factor is that village policies are generally formulated by community elites without going through a sufficient learning and participation process from all elements of the village community. The lack of community participation causes the village community to not receive adequate information about the management of village fund finances. As a result, the community has different perceptions of the village fund management carried out by the Village Head. The supervision carried out by the community is still short-term and tends to be conducted by small groups or even individuals. In the village, there are no institutional mechanisms and procedures that allow the community to oversee the performance of the village government. The village government does not yet have a mechanism to accommodate, follow up on, and resolve complaints (complaint mechanism). Community complaints about the performance and policies of the village government are rarely known to have any results. Because there is no certainty in the mechanism and the results that will be obtained, the community also becomes reluctant to submit complaints to the government. Community oversight is carried out spontaneously using conventional, unstructured methods, and it does not have an impact on improving performance. To continue developing community participation, there needs to be education or training for village communities on how to monitor village fund managers and how to access the budget. The capacity of the community and community institutions in the village needs to be built to become critical and dynamic. This is important so that a village community can be created that can become a balancing force when an unresponsive village government policy emerges (Satriawan 2015).

### 3.2 Legal and Policy Perspectives on Village Fund Corruption: Towards Equitable and Accountable Management

The first case is the Village Fund Corruption case in Probolinggo Regency. In Probolinggo Regency, a village head was reported to have misused Village Fund that was supposed to be used for infrastructure development, such as roads and public facilities. However, most of the funds were diverted for personal interests. This case illustrates issues of transparency and accountability in the management of Village Funds (I. S. Rahayu and Hidayat 2020). The diversion of Village Funds for infrastructure development violates public interest and good governance. Funds are meant to support community development, not personal interests. Mismanagement and lack of transparency can harm the community and undermine equitable development (Nim 2010).

Second, there is the case of village fund corruption in Tulungagung Regency. This case involves several village officials who were involved in the manipulation of Village Fund usage, which was supposed to be used for community empowerment programs. They used the funds for personal interests, such as buying personal vehicles and unofficial travel expenses. This embezzlement was uncovered after a report from the community (M. N. Fadli and Susanto 2021). Misuse of Village Funds for personal gain violates public accountability and good governance principles. These funds should be used for community empowerment programs, transparently and responsibly. Misuse undermines rural development, erodes public trust, and undermines social equity (Lilis Saidah Napisah and Cecep Taufiqurachman 2020).

Third, the village fund corruption case in Cirebon Regency. In Cirebon Regency, village heads and several other related parties were involved in the practice of embezzling the Village Fund used for infrastructure development. They made false reports regarding the implementation of development projects that did not actually exist, thereby misusing the funds allocated for those projects. This case shows weaknesses in supervision at the village level (Wijaya and Harsono 2019). False reports and misuse of Village Funds for fictitious projects breach accountability and community welfare principles. Funds for infrastructure development should be used transparently and effectively to support long-term needs. Distancing funds from non-productive activities hinders sustainable development and undermines public trust. A case of village fund corruption in Malang Regency highlights the importance of supervision and accountability in managing Village Funds (Santoso and L. Fitriani 2020). Malang Regency's misuse of Village Funds for personal gain violates public accountability and social justice principles. The funds were intended to improve underprivileged communities' quality of life, but were exploited for personal gain, highlighting the need for stronger oversight and legal enforcement (Moonti and Kadir 2018).

Fifth, the village fund corruption case in Banten Regency. This corruption case involves a village head who manipulated the fund usage report that was supposed to be used for the development of educational facilities. The funds were transferred to a personal account to pay for personal expenses. This case has opened the eyes of many parties to the importance of transparency and oversight in the management of Village Funds (S. M. Ahmad 2022). From the perspective of public accountability and good governance, the use of Village Funds for personal interests and the manipulation of financial reports constitute a serious violation of the principle that public resources must prioritize the public interest and community welfare. One of the essential sectors that should be prioritized in the management of Village Funds is education. Misusing these funds not only reflects a breach of integrity but also obstructs the delivery of benefits that are vital for the village community, particularly in ensuring equitable access to education, which is a key pillar for long-term development and poverty alleviation (Yarni, Kosariza, and Irwandi 2019).

Sixth, the case of village fund corruption in Bojonegoro Regency. The village head and several village officials in Bojonegoro Regency were involved in the corruption of the Village Fund used for public facility development projects. They diverted the funds for personal gain, and there are even reports of the funds being used to purchase personal equipment unrelated to village development. This case highlights the importance of internal and external oversight of Village Funds (Alamsyah and Hermawan 2021). Misuse of Village Funds by village officials violates public accountability and mandates to serve the public interest. This hinders the development of essential public facilities, highlighting the need for stricter oversight mechanisms to ensure responsible allocation, transparency, and sustainable development (Hulu, Harahap, and Nasutian 2018).

### 3.3 Model for Strengthening the Constitutional Rights of the Community through Village Fund Supervisory Groups as an Effort to Prevent Corruption

Effective and transparent management of Village Funds is an important part of improving the welfare of rural communities. However, along with the large allocation of Village Funds disbursed each year, the potential for misuse and corruption also arises. Since the launch of the Village Fund policy in 2015, several cases of fund misuse have emerged, indicating the need for stricter and more participatory oversight from the village community. Therefore, strengthening the constitutional rights of village communities through the establishment of Village Fund Supervisory Groups is an important step in preventing corruption and ensuring the proper allocation of funds. This research proposes a model for strengthening the constitutional rights of rural communities through the establishment of Village Fund Supervisory Groups (KPPD) that function to oversee the management of Village Funds at the village level. This model aims to increase community participation in supervision, provide transparency, and create accountability in the management of Village Funds. With participatory and community-based oversight, it is hoped that corrupt practices can be minimized, and Village Funds can be managed for the greatest benefit of the village community. Village Funds are funds sourced from the State Budget (APBN) that are directly allocated to villages for use in community development and empowerment. The main objective of the Village Fund is to improve the quality of life of rural communities through infrastructure development, enhancement of village institutional capacity, and local economic development.

However, in practice, the Village Fund is not always managed well. Based on data from the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), there have been several cases of Village Fund corruption in Indonesia involving village heads or village officials. The misuse of Village Funds generally occurs due to weak oversight systems, a lack of transparency, and the low capacity of village officials in managing the budget. The village community, which is the most affected party by poor management of Village Funds, often lacks access or does not understand how to oversee the management of these funds. The constitutional rights of rural communities in Indonesia are guaranteed by the 1945 Constitution and various other laws and regulations. Article 28E paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution guarantees the freedom for every person to express and convey their opinions. Article 28B paragraph (1) also affirms the right of every person to participate in the life of society, nation, and state. Additionally, the Village Law emphasizes that villages have the right to manage and utilize Village Funds according to the needs and potential present in the village. Community participation in the management of Village Funds is part of the implementation of this constitutional right. Supervision of the use of Village Funds by the community can prevent potential misuse and ensure that the allocated funds are truly used for the benefit of the village community. Here is the model proposed by the researcher regarding the village fund supervisory group: Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD). The Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) is a group formed at the village level to oversee the management of Village Funds. KPPD consists of representatives from the village community, including community leaders, social organizations, and members of village institutions who understand budget management. Here is the model and mechanism of work for the KPPD: Structure and Membership of the KPPD. The Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) must have a clear structure and be filled with members who possess high credibility and integrity. The membership of the KPPD includes: KPPD Chairperson, usually filled by a community leader with a good reputation and trusted by the village community. KPPD Members: KPPD members consist of various community representatives, which can include: Representatives of religious leaders, Representatives of village youth, Representatives of community organizations, Members of the Community Empowerment Institute (LPM), Representatives from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Representatives of local neighborhood units (RT/RW). The membership of the KPPD must reflect the diversity of the village community, so that the oversight is more objective and encompasses various perspectives.

Duties and Functions of KPPD: The main duty of KPPD is to supervise the use of Village Funds to ensure that the funds are used according to their purpose and allocation. The functions that must be carried out by KPPD include: Monitoring the Preparation of the Village Budget Plan (RAB Desa): KPPD is involved in the budget planning process to ensure that the allocation of funds aligns with the village development priorities and the needs of the community. Supervision of Project Implementation: KPPD supervises the implementation of development projects funded by the Village Fund, such as infrastructure development, community empowerment, and institutional capacity building. Outreach and Education to the Community: KPPD can conduct outreach to the community about the importance of supervision and the rights of the community related to Village Funds. Audit and Financial Reports: KPPD plays a role in examining the financial reports submitted by the village head or village officials. If discrepancies are found, KPPD can report them to the authorities, such as the Financial Audit Agency (BPK) or the Police.

KPPD Supervision Mechanism, To maximize the supervisory function, KPPD must have a clear mechanism in carrying out its duties: Information Transparency: KPPD ensures that the entire process of using Village Funds is conducted transparently, both in terms of planning, implementation, and results. KPPD can utilize information technology to create oversight reports that are accessible to the public. Village Deliberation: Whenever there is a plan for the use of Village Funds, the KPPD must hold a deliberation with the village community to discuss the allocation of funds, development priorities, and the oversight process. Reporting and Follow-Up: KPPD prepares periodic reports related to the supervision conducted and the findings discovered. If indications of abuse are found, KPPD is obliged to report to law enforcement agencies or the Financial Audit Agency (BPK) for further investigation. Rights and Protections for KPPD, To carry out their duties effectively, KPPD members must be granted rights and protections. These rights include: The Right to Access Information: KPPD has the right to access documents related to the planning and use of Village Funds. Legal Protection: KPPD members who perform their duties honestly and fairly must receive legal protection from the government to prevent obstruction by threats or pressure from parties who feel aggrieved. Provision of Incentives: To enhance motivation, KPPD members can be given incentives in the form of awards or financial support sourced from the local government.

Despite the normative strengths of the Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) model, its practical implementation is likely to face several structural and socio-political challenges that must be anticipated. One significant issue concerns community capacity, particularly the varying levels of literacy, legal awareness, and financial management skills among rural populations. Without adequate training and empowerment programs, the supervisory role of KPPD may risk being merely symbolic rather than substantively effective. Another pressing concern relates to the sustainability of funding for KPPD operations. Since effective supervision requires resources for training, meetings, and reporting, clear mechanisms of financial support, whether from local governments, national policy schemes, or partnerships with civil

society organizations, are essential to ensure that KPPD can function independently without being constrained by resource scarcity. Furthermore, potential resistance from village officials poses a political challenge, as entrenched interests may perceive the presence of KPPD as a threat to their authority or discretionary control over village funds. Such resistance could manifest in subtle forms, including non-cooperation, lack of information sharing, or even intimidation of KPPD members. To address these barriers, strategies such as institutionalizing KPPD within the village governance framework, providing legal safeguards, and integrating digital transparency tools are crucial to strengthen its legitimacy and resilience. Lessons from international practices demonstrate that oversight bodies gain long-term effectiveness when they are both formally recognized in law and socially supported through inclusive participation (Fox 2020). Thus, recognizing and addressing these challenges is indispensable for transforming the KPPD from a normative proposal into an operationally viable mechanism for corruption prevention and accountable rural governance.

From the perspective of public interest and good governance, the management of Village Funds and the oversight conducted by the Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) serve not only as preventive mechanisms against corruption but also as strategic efforts to maximize public benefit for the village community. The concept of public interest, understood as efforts that bring collective welfare even if not explicitly detailed in statutory regulations, can form a normative basis for enforcing effective and participatory supervision over Village Funds. This approach ensures that fund management remains focused on transparency, accountability, and the fulfillment of development goals that improve the quality of life in rural areas (Asmawi 2009).

In this context, ensuring that the allocation of Village Funds is used properly represents a crucial step toward achieving the broader goal of improving the welfare of the village community. Transparent and participatory oversight of Village Fund utilization is a fundamental element of good governance, aimed at preventing the misuse of funds and optimizing their use to serve the public interest. Such oversight mechanisms help guarantee that development efforts are aligned with community needs and contribute to equitable and sustainable progress at the village level (Ahmad 2014).

The establishment of the Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) and the supervision of Village Fund management are highly relevant to the principles of public accountability and preventive governance. Although existing laws may not explicitly mandate the formation of such community-based supervisory groups, their establishment serves a greater purpose, namely, the prevention of corruption and the enhancement of the quality of life for village residents. The KPPD functions as a proactive mechanism to reduce the risk of fund mismanagement and ensure that public resources are used transparently and effectively in accordance with their intended objectives (Ahmad 2014). The establishment of the Village Fund Supervisory Group (KPPD) plays a crucial role in ensuring effective and accountable management of Village Funds. Through transparent governance and open access to information, the presence of KPPD significantly reduces the potential for misuse of funds that could otherwise harm the welfare of the community. Transparency in this context guarantees that Village Funds are allocated and utilized based on actual needs and for the benefit of the broader village population. In addition, community participation in supervision is a constitutional right guaranteed by the 1945 Constitution. When villagers are actively involved in overseeing fund management, it not only empowers them but also strengthens the principles of accountability and democratic governance. This participatory approach serves as a safeguard mechanism, increasing the likelihood that Village Funds are used as intended and aligned with community priorities.

Moreover, the implementation of internal and external supervision mechanisms through KPPD contributes meaningfully to the prevention of corruption. Mismanagement and fraudulent practices are less likely to occur in systems where oversight is consistent, independent, and involves community input. This not only protects state finances but also helps build public trust in local governance. Proper oversight ensures that infrastructure development and community empowerment initiatives funded by the Village Fund can be realized sustainably. Ultimately, the presence of a supervisory body like KPPD strengthens the long-term objectives of the Village Fund program, namely to support inclusive rural development, reduce poverty, and improve the quality of life for all members of the village community through just and effective resource allocation.

## 4. Conclusion

Although Village Funds have been allocated in large amounts to support the development and empowerment of village communities, numerous problems persist, particularly related to the misuse of funds that lead to acts of corruption. Cases involving village officials, such as village heads and treasurers, have resulted in substantial losses to the state and weakened public trust in the Village Fund program. This situation underscores the urgent need for stricter, more inclusive, and participatory oversight to ensure that the use of Village Funds aligns with the objectives set forth by law and policy. Strengthening the constitutional rights of rural communities through the establishment of Village Fund Supervisory Groups (KPPD) is a strategic step toward enhancing transparency and accountability in fund management. These supervisory groups, composed of community representatives, have the potential to oversee the allocation and use of Village Funds directly, while also fostering awareness among villagers about their rights and responsibilities in the governance of development resources.

Community-based supervision not only serves as a preventive mechanism against corruption but also promotes a culture of openness and accountability that is essential for effective rural development. Through transparent and participatory oversight, the risks of misappropriation, fictitious projects, and personal enrichment at the expense of public welfare can be significantly reduced. Furthermore, involving the community in supervision ensures that Village Funds are directed toward real needs and priorities, such as infrastructure, education, health, and economic empowerment. Ultimately, by reinforcing the role of the community in monitoring and decision-making, Village Fund management can better achieve its intended goals, namely, sustainable and equitable development that improves the quality of life for all members of the village. This approach reflects the broader constitutional commitment to social justice, public welfare, and the integrity of public service delivery at the grassroots level.

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