

### **Intisari**

Sejak awal abad 21 TNK mengalami pergeseran pengelolaan, wacana konservasi tidak lagi dimaknai tunggal sebagai dimensi pelestarian alam. TNK diproyeksikan menjadi destinasi wisata super premium yang diharapkan berkontribusi besar bagi pendapatan negara. Alih-alih mempertahankan mata pencahariannya sebagai nelayan seperti desa dua lain di lingkup TNK, yakni Desa Papagarang dan Pasir Panjang. Masyarakat Desa Komodo justru beralih mata pencaharian sebagai pelaku wisata. Penelitian ini bertujuan menyelidiki rasionalitas yang dibangun masyarakat Desa Komodo dalam menentukan keputusannya menjadi pelaku wisata. Kemudian juga menguraikan proses negosiasi masyarakat Desa Komodo untuk mendapatkan posisi ditengah masifnya investasi yang masuk di TNK. Serta menguraikan upaya yang dibangun oleh masyarakat dalam membangun ekonomi kolektif melalui desa wisata. Lokasi penelitian dilakukan di Desa Komodo, Kecamatan Komodo, Kabupaten Manggarai Barat, Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan observasi partisipan, wawancara mendalam dan studi dokumen. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa perubahan mata pencaharian masyarakat Desa Komodo menjadi pelaku wisata, terjadi karena negara tidak lagi memandang masyarakat sebagai ancaman bagi konservasi. Masyarakat dianggap sebagai unsur yang harus dilibatkan dalam konservasi dan diberdayakan. Kelestarian ekosistem alam nampaknya menjadi 'modal' bagi perekonomian negara. Pemberdayaan yang dilakukan membentuk masyarakat sebagai kelompok yang '*powerless*' menjadi '*empowered*'. Pariwisata dipandang sebagai harapan baru bagi masyarakat untuk mendapatkan kembali akses sumberdaya alam taman nasional yang sebelumnya dibatasi oleh negara. Kenaikan tiket masuk Pulau Komodo dan Padar yang sebelumnya ditolak oleh banyak pihak justru memberikan peluang baru terciptanya Desa wisata Komodo. Situasi pandemic Covid-19 menjadi refleksi bagi masyarakat akan pentingnya mata pencaharian alternatif, sehingga tidak lagi menggantungkan hidupnya dari sektor pariwisata saja. Pola ekonomi sepanjang tahun dari sektor pariwisata, pertanian dan kehutanan, serta laut memberikan kontribusi pendapatan secara terus menerus tanpa henti, sehingga masyarakat memiliki ketahanan ekonomi. Walaupun telah memiliki ketahanan ekonomi, masyarakat dihadapkan pada persoalan lain yang mengakar semenjak era pariwisata yakni distribusi pendapatan.

**Kata Kunci:** Konservasi, Pariwisata, Pemberdayaan, Transformasi sosial, Kepengaturan

## **Abstract**

Since the beginning of the 21st century, TNK has experienced a shift in management, the conservation discourse is no longer interpreted solely as a dimension of nature conservation. TNK is projected to become a super-premium tourist destination that is expected to contribute greatly to state revenue. Instead of maintaining their livelihoods as fishers like the other two villages within TNK, namely Papagarang and Pasir Panjang Villages. The people of Komodo Village have instead switched their livelihoods to become tourism actors. This research aims to investigate the rationality built by the Komodo Village community in determining their decision to become tourism actors. It also describes the negotiation process of the Komodo Village community to gain a position amidst the massive investment in TNK. As well as describing the efforts made by the community in building a collective economy through tourism villages. The research was conducted in Komodo Village, Komodo District, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province. Data were collected using participant observation, in-depth interviews and document studies. The results showed that the change in the livelihood of the Komodo Village community into tourism actors occurred because the state no longer views the community as a threat to conservation. The community is considered an element that must be involved in conservation and empowered. The preservation of natural ecosystems appears to be 'capital' for the country's economy. The empowerment that is carried out shapes the community as a 'powerless' group into an 'empowered' one. Tourism is seen as a new hope for the community to regain access to the natural resources of national parks that were previously restricted by the state. The increase in entrance tickets to Komodo and Padar Islands, which was previously rejected by many parties, actually provides a new opportunity for the creation of the Komodo Tourism Village. The Covid-19 pandemic situation has become a reflection for the community on the importance of alternative livelihoods, so that they no longer depend on the tourism sector alone. Year-round economic patterns from the tourism, agriculture and forestry, and marine sectors contribute income continuously without stopping, so that the community has economic resilience. Despite having economic resilience, the community is faced with another problem that has taken root since the tourism era, namely income distribution.

**Keyword:** Conservation, Tourism, Empowerment, Social transformation, Governmentality