Evaluation on the Impact of Rural Road Connectivity Investment from Village Fund Program on Poverty
Reduction in Kebumen Regency
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INTISARI

Kemiskinan terus menghambat pembangunan global, terutama di wilayah pedesaan yang ditandai oleh terbatasnya peluang ekonomi, isolasi geografis, dan layanan dasar yang tidak memadai. Di Indonesia, Program Dana Desa, yang diperkenalkan pada tahun 2014, bertujuan untuk memberdayakan masyarakat pedesaan dengan membiayai infrastruktur, pembangunan masyarakat, dan inisiatif penanggulangan kemiskinan. Studi ini mengkaji dampak program tersebut terhadap konektivitas jalan pedesaan dan penanggulangan kemiskinan di Kabupaten Kebumen, Jawa Tengah, wilayah termiskin di provinsi tersebut. Meskipun jumlah dana yang substansial telah dialokasikan untuk jalan pedesaan, penelitian sebelumnya masih terbatas dalam mengevaluasi tentang bagaimana investasi tersebut memengaruhi kemiskinan melalui peningkatan aksesibilitas. Studi ini mengatasi kesenjangan tersebut dengan menganalisis hubungan antara perbaikan konektivitas jalan pedesaan yang didanai Dana Desa dan tingkat kemiskinan di tingkat desa menggunakan metode spasial dan statistik. Analisis spasial (Moran's I dan LISA) mengkaji pola distribusi kemiskinan, sementara model data panel mengkaji hubungan kausal antara kemiskinan, pendanaan jalan pedesaan, dan karakteristik spasial seperti kepadatan jalan, kedekatan dengan pusat kota, kemiringan lereng, dan ketinggian. Hasil menunjukkan ketimpangan spasial yang persisten, dengan klaster kemiskinan tinggi terkonsentrasi di utara dan wilayah kemiskinan rendah di selatan. Investasi jalan menunjukkan peningkatan konsentrasi spasial, tetapi distribusinya masih belum merata. Peningkatan alokasi Dana Desa untuk jalan pedesaan hanya berkorelasi dengan pengurangan kemiskinan yang marginal, dan kondisi geografis tetap berpengaruh. Secara keseluruhan, belanja jalan pedesaan dalam Dana Desa memiliki dampak yang terbatas terhadap pengurangan kemiskinan. Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa pengeluaran belanja infrastruktur yang substansial perlu dipertimbangkan kembali demi program yang lebih progresif, dengan sumber pendanaan di luar Dana Desa jika memungkinkan.

Kata kunci: terdiri, dari, maksimal, lima, kata

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ABSTRACT

Poverty continues to impede development globally, particularly in rural areas marked by limited economic opportunities, geographic isolation, and inadequate basic services. In Indonesia, the Village Fund Program (Dana Desa), introduced in 2014, aims to empower rural communities by financing infrastructure, community development, and poverty alleviation initiatives. This study assesses the program's impact on rural road connectivity and poverty reduction in Kebumen Regency, Central Java, the province's poorest region. Although substantial funds have been allocated to rural roads, limited research has evaluated how such investments influence poverty through improved accessibility. This study addresses that gap by analyzing the relationship between Village Fund–financed rural road improvements and village-level poverty rates using spatial and statistical methods. Spatial analyses (Moran's I and LISA) examine poverty distribution patterns, while panel data models assess causal relationships between poverty, rural road funding, and spatial characteristics such as road density, proximity to urban centers, slope, and elevation. Results show persistent spatial inequality, with high-poverty clusters concentrated in the north and low-poverty areas in the south. Road investments display growing spatial concentration but remain unevenly distributed. Increases in Village Fund allocations to rural roads correlate with only marginal poverty reductions, and geographic conditions remain influential. Overall, rural road spending under the Village Fund has had a limited impact on poverty reduction. The findings indicate that substantial infrastructure expenditures should be reconsidered in favor of more progressive programs, with funding sourced outside the Village Fund where possible.

Keywords: Village Fund; rural poverty; rural road investment; poverty reduction; government's village investment.

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