

LEVEL OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN MANAGEMENT OF URBAN FOREST OF THE NATIONAL WIRAKARYA CAMPING IN BONGOHULAWA, GORONTALO REGENCY

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Abstract

The efforts of the central and regional governments in managing urban forests should also be encourage participation from the community which is carried out starting from the planning stage, the stage of maintaining protection and security, the stage of utilization as well as the stage of monitoring and evaluation. This research was conducted with the aim of knowing the level of community participation in the management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest in Gorontalo Regency. The research design used is descriptive quantitative research using survey methods. The survey method was carried out by distributing questionnaires with a closed question model that was posed to the respondents by purposive sampling. The average level of community participation at the planning and monitoring evaluation stages is in the low category. Meanwhile, the average level of participation at the maintenance, protection and security stage as well as at the utilization stage is in the medium category.

Keywords: *Urban Forest, Management, Participation Level, Bongohulawa*

INTRODUCTION

The definition of urban forest according to the provisions of Article 1 point 2 of Government Regulation Number 63 of 2002 concerning Urban Forests, it is stated that an urban forest is a stretch of land that grows compact and dense trees in an urban area both on state land and private land designated as urban forest by the competent authority. In accordance with the objectives of organizing urban forests, in the implementation of urban forests, priority must be given to the function of urban forests, namely as absorbers CO₂ and O₂ emitters absorb pollutants (heavy metals, dust, sulfur), reduce noise, conserve germs, support flora and fauna diversity and ecosystem balance, windbreaks and enhance beauty. Further confirmed by Zoeraini (2005) that the function of the urban forest can be grouped into several functions, namely the function of the landscape, the function of environmental conservation (ecology) and the function of aesthetics.

In the implementation of urban forest development planning, it should be compiled by taking into account several studies in the form of technical, ecological, economic, social and local cultural aspects (PP 63 of 2002). Furthermore, it is explained that since the stages of appointment, development, determination, management, guidance, and supervision in the administration of urban forests, the central government, provincial governments, and district/city governments must encourage community participation in every stage carried out.

Participation comes from English "participation", which means taking part or participation. According to the complete Indonesian dictionary, participation means taking part in an activity, participation, participation. According to Yulianti (2006) that participation is a process that involves parties in influencing and controlling development initiatives, decisions and resources that influence the parties involved.

Next according to Salampeppy, et al (2010) defines community participation as the process of providing opportunities to the community both individually and in groups with the aim of influencing public decision-making. It is also stated that the level of participation or known as the ladder of participation starts from the stages of manipulation, therapy, informing, consultation, placation, partnership, delegation of power and in the end, there is social control from the community.

The substance of participation is a function of the government system where the policy-making process is carried out with the approval of the community, while the basic direction that will be developed is the empowerment process (Juliantara, 2002). It was further stated that the substantive meanings contained in the series of participation were voice, access, and control. Related to the above, this research was conducted with the aim of knowing the level of community participation in urban forest management Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camp in Gorontalo Regency.

METHODOLOGY

This research was conducted in the City Forest of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Campground located in Bongohulawa Village, Limboto District, Gorontalo Regency, Gorontalo Regency. The implementation time of this research is 5 (five) months, namely August to December 2018. The research time includes several stages, including a preliminary study which includes a literature study and an initial survey of the location, for the preparation of a thesis proposal, preparation which includes a survey guide and the tools used in the research which includes data collection in the field, data analysis which includes processing research data, to the stage of compiling research results. The Administrative Map of the Research Site, as presented in Figure 1.

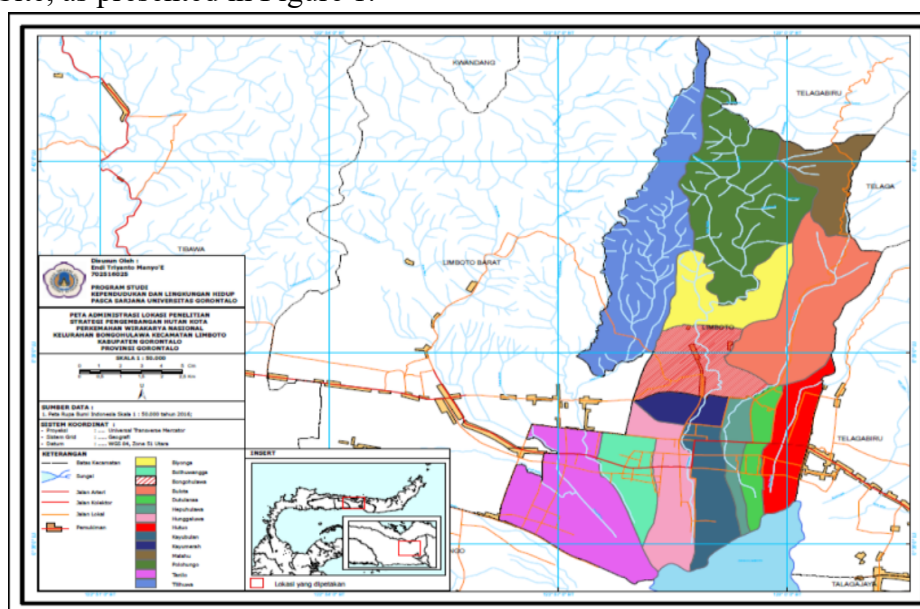


Figure 1. Research Site Administration Map

The research design used is descriptive quantitative research, using survey methods. The survey method was carried out by distributing questionnaires with a closed-question model that was posed to the respondents by means of purposive sampling. The materials used in this study

were in the form of questionnaires, while the tools used in the research were cameras, writing instruments and computers.

The population in this study, as many as 554 families (KK) in the Village Bongohulawa with a total sample of 85 families. Determination of the number of samples is carried out by purposive sampling using the Slovin formula(Umar 2004), that is:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

where:

n = Sample Size

e = Error (percent allowance)

N = Population Size

The percentage of leeway or the level of accuracy desired in this study is 10 percent. This means that the research has an accuracy level of 90 percent. The calculations carried out to determine the number of samples in the study are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}n &= 554 / 1 + 554 (0,10)^2 \\ &= 554 / 6.54 \\ &= 84.71 \text{ and rounded to } 85\end{aligned}$$

Community participation assessed is community activities starting from the planning stage, maintenance/protection/security stage, utilization stage and evaluation monitoring stage for the management of the Bolihungga National Wirakarya Camping City Forest. Primary data collection to determine the level of community participation in the management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest was carried out in several stages, as follows:

1. Carry out validity and reliability tests on the questionnaire which will be distributed to each respondent.
2. After confirming that the questionnaire is considered valid and reliable, the next step is to explain how to fill out the questionnaire to the enumerators who will collect the questionnaire data.
3. The data obtained from the respondents through the enumerator staff were then compiled, validated, and analyzed.

Data analysis

Data processing is carried out to find out the level of community participation in management Bongohulawa National Craft Campground City Forest This is done by grouping the data on the level of community participation into 3 (three) groups, namely low, medium and high participation rates. Grouping or data classification is formulated based on the Sturges formula(Dajan 1986), with the following stages:

1. Determine the length by using the formula, as follows:

$$z = \frac{N_{max} - N_{min}}{k}$$

Where:

z = the length of the interval

N_{max} = the highest score of each respondent

N_{min} = the lowest score of each respondent

k = multiple data sets

2. Determine the data interval, with the length of the interval from the data group is 3 (three) data groups, namely:
 - a. First group, low participation rate
 - b. The second group, the participation rate is moderate
 - c. The third group, the participation rate is high

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. The Level of Community Participation in the Planning Stages of the Urban Forest Management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Campground

Based on the results of the questionnaire analysis of the respondents, the lowest score of respondents (N_{min}) was 22 and the highest score of respondents (N_{max}) was 31 with a mean value of 24.42 and the length of the interval from the data group was 3 (three). Based on the interval from the data group, the mean value of 24.42 is included in the first group, which is the value interval between 22-24. Thus, it can be concluded that the level of community participation in forest management in the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camp City in Gorontalo Regency at the planning stage is in the category of low participation level. This condition is relevant to the observation that from a number of 85 respondents, 58 respondents or 68.24 percent stated that they had never been involved in the planning stages carried out, for various reasons.

The reasons respondents are not involved in the implementation of the stages of the urban forest planning process are presented in Figure 2.

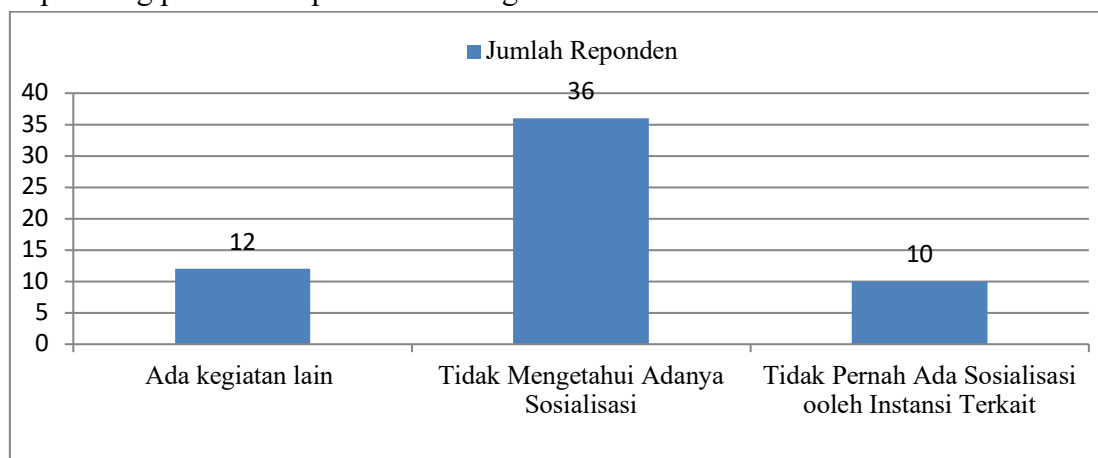


Figure 2. Reasons for Respondents Not Being Involved in the Implementation of the Stages of the Urban Forest Planning Process

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Figure 2 shows that of the 58 respondents who stated that they had never been involved in the planning stages carried out, there were a number of respondents who answered that they did not know about the implementation of socialization, namely 62.07 percent (36 respondents). Meanwhile, respondents who stated that the relevant agencies had never carried out socialization activities were 17.24 percent (10 respondents) and 20.69 percent (12 respondents) answered that the relevant OPD had conducted socialization.

The description of the answers as many as 20.69 percent of respondents who stated that socialization had been carried out by the relevant agencies but they did not follow it for several reasons, namely the reason that there were other activities at the same time as many as 91.67 percent or 11 respondents and the reason for not being invited was 8.33 percent or 1

respondents. Another interesting thing based on the answers from 58 respondents who were not involved in the planning stage, stated that they were all willing to attend the socialization activities if there were socialization activities and they were invited by the relevant agencies and at the same time they did not have other activities.

B. The Level of Community Participation in the Maintenance, Protection and Security Stages in the Forest Management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest

Based on the results of the questionnaire analysis of the respondents, the lowest score of respondents (N_{min}) is 8 and the highest score of respondents (N_{max}) is 14 with a mean value of 11.43 with the interval length of the data group is 2. Based on the interval of the data group above, then the mean value of 11.43 was included in the second group, namely the interval of 10-11. Thus, it can be concluded that the level of community participation in forest management in the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camp City in Gorontalo Regency at the stage of maintenance, protection and security is included in the category of moderate participation level.

In this stage, the level of respondent participation is measured in terms of plant intensification and diversification, damage prevention and control efforts, prevention and control of flora and fauna theft as well as fire prevention and control efforts. Based on observations that of the 85 respondents met, a total of 36 respondents or 42.35 percent stated that they had never been involved in the stages of maintenance, protection and security carried out. Reasons for Respondents Not Being Involved in the Stages of the Maintenance, Protection and Security of Urban Forests are presented in Figure 3.

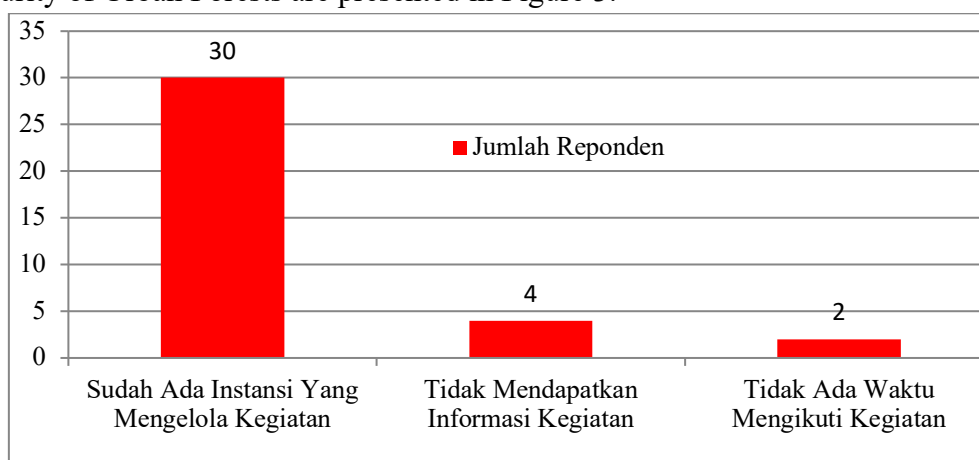


Figure 3. Reasons for Respondents Not Involved in the Stages of Maintenance, Protection and Security of Urban Forests

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Figure 3 above, shows that the most dominant reason given by respondents is that there are already agencies that manage it with a percentage of 83.33 percent and respondents who answered that they never received information about the implementation of activities with a percentage of 11.11 percent (4 respondents) and respondents answered that there was no time to be involved in the activities carried out by 5.56 percent (2 respondents). This indicates that most of the respondents know that there is a technical agency that is given the authority to manage the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest.

C. The Level of Community Participation in the Stages of Utilizing the City Forest of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Campground

Based on the results of the questionnaire analysis of the respondents, the lowest score of respondents (N_{\min}) is 2 and the highest score of respondents (N_{\max}) is 8 with a mean value of 4.02 with the length of the interval from the data group is 2. Based on the interval of the data group above, then the mean value of 4.02 was included in the second group, namely the interval 4-5. Thus, it can be concluded that the level of community participation in forest management in the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camp City in Gorontalo Regency at the utilization stage is in the category of moderate participation level.

Based on observations, that of the 85 respondents who were met, it turned out that a number of 30 respondents or 35.29 percent stated that they had never been involved in the stages of utilizing the existence of urban forests. Reasons for Respondents Not Being Involved in the Stages of Utilizing the Existence of Urban Forests are presented in Figure 4.

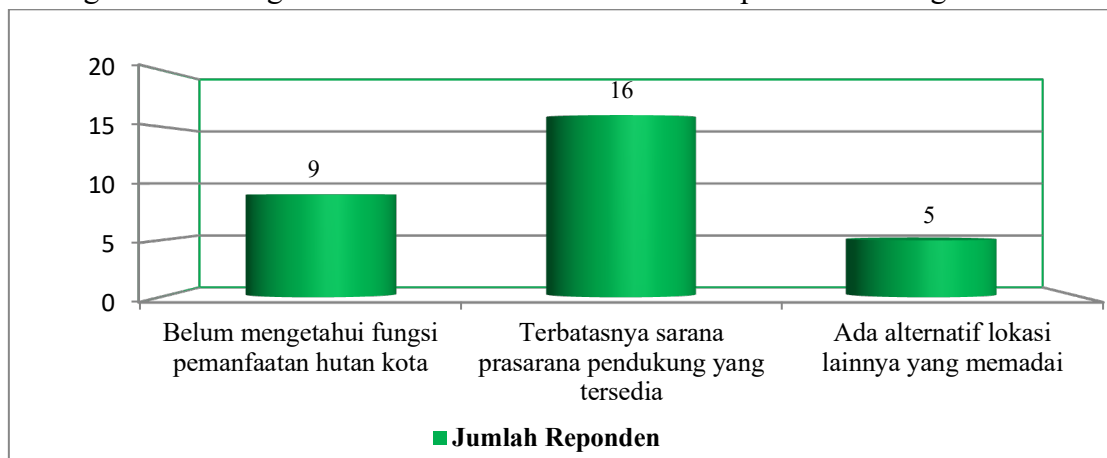


Figure 4. Reasons for Respondents Not Involved in the Stages of Utilizing the Existence of Urban Forests

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Figure 4 above shows that the most dominant reasons given by respondents for not utilizing the existence of urban forests are the limited facilities and infrastructure available with a percentage of 58.82 percent and respondents who answered that they did not know the function of urban forest utilization with a percentage of 26.47 percent and respondents answered that there are other adequate alternative locations by 14.71 percent. Meanwhile, as many as 55 respondents or 64.71 percent stated that they had used the existence of urban forests and the types of activities carried out in urban forests, namely: 1) as a location for camping activities; 2) as a location for educational development (practice locations, introduction to flora and fauna); 3) as a recreational location (fishing, selfie/photography, softgun water games, outbound, etc.); and 4) sports activities (gymnastics, jogging, etc.). Community Forest Utilization Activities are presented in Figure 5.

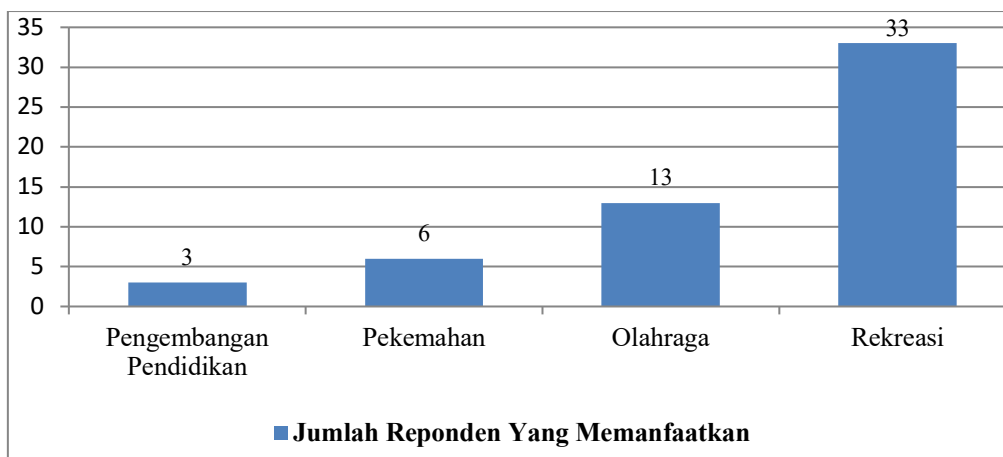


Figure 5. Community Forest Utilization Activities

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Figure 5 above shows that there are 64.71 percent or 55 respondents who answered that they had used the existence of urban forests. The dominant activities carried out by respondents who answered that they had used the existence of urban forests were to make urban forests a recreational area in the form of fishing activities by 60 percent, places to exercise (gymnastics, jogging, soccer, etc.) by 23.64, campsites by 16, 36 percent and places for education development by 5.45 percent.

The description of respondents' answers above gives an indication that technical agencies must provide supporting infrastructure facilities that will make visitors comfortable visiting the urban forest. Another thing that must also be done is to carry out continuous socialization to the community about the function of urban forests, both through print and electronic media.

D. The Level of Community Participation in the Monitoring and Evaluation Stage of Forest Management in the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping Town

Based on the results of the questionnaire analysis of the respondents, the lowest score of respondents (N_{\min}) is 6 and the highest score of respondents (N_{\max}) is 12 with an average value of 7.24 with the interval length of the data group is 2. Based on the interval of the data group above, then the mean value of 7.24 is included in the first group, which is 6-7 intervals. Thus, it can be concluded that the level of community participation in the management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camp City Forest in Gorontalo Regency at the monitoring and evaluation stage is in the category of low participation level.

Based on observations, that of the 85 respondents who were met, 70 respondents or 82.35 percent stated that they had never been involved in the monitoring and evaluation stages of urban forest management. The reasons respondents are not involved in the monitoring and evaluation stages of urban forest management are presented in Figure 6.

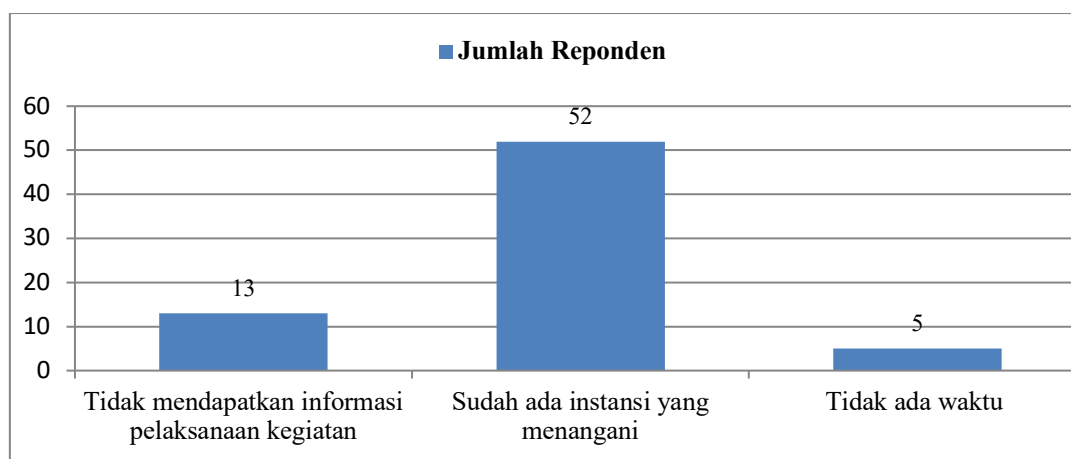


Figure 6. Reasons for Respondents Not Involved in the Monitoring and Evaluation Stages of Urban Forest Management

Source: Primary Data, 2018

Figure 6 shows that the most dominant reason given by respondents who are not involved in the monitoring and evaluation stage of urban forest management is that there are already agencies that handle it with a percentage of 74.29 percent. Meanwhile, respondents who answered that they did not know the information on the implementation of monitoring and evaluation activities were 18.57 percent and those who answered that there was no time to be involved in the monitoring and evaluation stage were 7.14 percent. This illustrates that socialization efforts about community involvement or participation in urban forest management must be optimized so that it will raise awareness that the responsibility for urban forest management is not only the responsibility of the government.

On average, the level of community participation in the planning and monitoring evaluation stages in the National Wirakarya Camping City Forest Management was only in the low category. Meanwhile, the average level of participation in the stages of maintenance, protection and utilization as well as stages of utilization, is in the medium category. The distribution of the level of community participation in the forest management stages of the National Wirakarya Camping City is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of Community Participation Levels at the Management Stage

Management Stage	Category Participation Rate and Number of Respondents						Average Score
	Low		Currently		Tall		
	Number of Respondents	%	Number of Respondents	%	Number of Respondents	%	
Planning	47	55.29	26	30.59	12	14.12	24.42 (Low)
	Value Interval 22–24		Value Intervals 25–27		Value Interval 28-31		
Maintenance Protection and Security	3	3.53	46	54.12	26	30.59	11.43 (Medium)
	Value Interval 8 – 9		Value Interval 10–11		Value Interval 12-14		
Utilization	37	43.53	29	34.12	19	22.35	4.02 (Medium)
	Value Intervals 2-3		4-5 . intervals		Intervals 6 -8		
Monitoring and Evaluation	51	60.00	26	30.59	8	9.42	7.24 (Low)
	Value Interval 6-7		Value Interval 8 - 9		Value Interval 10-12		

Source: Primary Data, 2018

An activity can be categorized as a participatory activity, if there is a community role in the form of (1) being directly involved in proposing an activity; (2) be directly involved in the process of deliberation to make decisions about alternative programs that are considered the best; (3) be involved in implementing the decisions that have been taken, for example giving donations/contributions; and (4) directly involved in supervising the implementation of the activities that have been decided (Yulianti 2006). Other things also mentioned by Anggreini (2017), that there are 5 (five) ways to involve the community, namely:

1. Carry out surveys and consultations in order to obtain the data and information needed.
2. Maximizing the role of field officers, apart from carrying out their duties as agents of reform, they are also expected to be able to absorb the information needed.
3. Carry out the planning stages that are decentralized so as to provide space for the community to participate.
4. Carry out collaborative planning by optimizing the role of local government.
5. Implementing a development strategy with a community-based development approach.

Increasing community participation is carried out through education, training, counseling, and technical assistance including site selection, species suitability, reforestation and conservation techniques as well as incentives that can be provided (PP 63 of 2002). One form of incentive that can be given is in the form of an award in the form of material or the inclusion of the name of the right holder as the name of the urban forest being built. The same thing is also emphasized in the provisions of the Minister of Forestry Regulation Number 5 of 2008 concerning Guidelines for the Provision and Utilization of Green Open Spaces in Urban Areas, that the involvement of the community and the private sector as well as legal entities in efforts to provide green open spaces is in the form of land provision, development, and maintenance of green open spaces. (Permenhut 5 of 2008). It was further explained that these roles, in the form of:

1. Transfer of private land ownership rights to public Green Open Space.
2. Handing over the use of private land to be used as a public green open space.
3. Financing the development, maintenance, and utilization of public Green Open Space.
4. Providing counseling about the role of public green open spaces in improving environmental quality and safety, means of social interaction and disaster mitigation.

Another effort that can be made to increase community participation is through a regulatory approach, one of which is by reviewing the Gorontalo Regent's Regulation of 2007 concerning the Obligation to Plant Trees for Communities Who Will Have Marriages and For Students Who Will Continuing Education in the Gorontalo Regency Area. The review carried out includes the scope, obligation to plant trees, implementation of planting, assistance in procuring seeds, maintenance, utilization, protection, and supervision.

CONCLUSION

The level of Community Participation in the Forest Management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest at the planning stage and monitoring evaluation stage was in the low category. Meanwhile, at the maintenance, protection and security stage as well as the utilization stage, the level of community participation in the management of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest is included in the medium category. Several factors caused the level of community participation to be not optimal, including the

lack of optimal community involvement efforts by relevant agencies, limited supporting infrastructure in the location of the Bongohulawa National Wirakarya Camping City Forest and some people not knowing the functions and benefits of the urban forest.

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