Women Who Change the Village: The Village Act 6 of 2014 and Inclusive Development in Indonesia

R. Yando Zakaria, anthropologist, Fellow of Circle for Rural and Agrarian Reform/Lingkar Pembaruan Desa dan Agraria, Yogyakarta, r.y.zakaria@gmail.com
Introduction 1:
Inclusive Development $\rightarrow$ ‘Failure’ of PPK/PNPM – and similar program – in implementing mandate of social inclusion is not a novel problem (Gibson and Woolcock, 2005; McLaughlin, Satu, & Hoppe, 2007; Voss, 2008; AKATIGA, 2010; SMERU, 2010, Soehendera, 2010; and John F. McCarthy, et.al. (in press)

• Not able to reach ‘the most marginalized’ groups.
• Low quality of participation. 75% women attending to forum come merely for the sake of listening.
• Decisions taken are benefiting upper class of the village.
• Programs with single target group, such as SPP, are not able to reach the most marginalized groups (poor and widowers).
• Program with ‘special single target group’, such as PEKKA, is able to reach the target group relatively, However, its influence on decision making process in public domain and formal politics is still limited.
• Therefore, in general, unjust social structure does not change/has not yet changed.
Introduction 2
*Spectrum of Ideologies Underlying Social Inclusion Theory and Policy* (Gidley, Wheeler, and Bereded-Samuel, 2010)

- **Access to** equity scholarships, Income support, Improved infrastructure, technology, public transport, translators, physical access, Health services, etc.
- *Participation on* community engagement, partnerships, mentoring, social enterprise, school outreach, learning networks, art, sport, etc.
- **Empowerment** → celebrate diversity, dialogue, pathways, futures interventions, voice “being heard”, hope interventions, cultural festivals, etc.
Marginal group in The Village Act

- Simarmata & Zakaria, 2016:
  - Continues tradition in the national legislation system;
  - More advanced. When related 5 laws determine participation as *providing inputs* then VL determines participation as *taking decision*; and
  - Not only by providing equal rights and opportunities also providing ‘special treatment’
Peso Experiences:
Institutionalization of peace through life quality refinement at village level initiated and organized by women

- To build public awareness on gender equality
- To build critical awareness of women massively
- To establish organizational system and women leadership
- To reinforce changing of development policy at village level cq. Optimization of the Village Act
## Annex 1

Curriculum and material of ‘Women School for Optimization of The Village Act’ (based on experiences of KARSA, YSKK/Solo, Mosintuwu Institute/Poso, Nurani Perempuan/Samarinda, Institution of Dayak Penarung/Palangkaraya)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose of Program</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
<th>Materials required/Questions to answer</th>
<th>Strategi kerja</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To build public awareness on gender equality</td>
<td>Villagers generally</td>
<td>- Women issue as social issue&lt;br&gt;- Why is it required to understand gender equality issue?&lt;br&gt;- Universal values and religious values on gender equality</td>
<td>Seminar? Outreach?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To build critical awareness of women massively</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>- Social system, economic system, political system and cultural system that marginalizing women&lt;br&gt;- Why do women need to participate in public domain?&lt;br&gt;- What are constraints for women to participate?&lt;br&gt;- Spaces of women participation in politics and development</td>
<td>Group discussion at basic level&lt;br&gt;‘managed and facilitated by cadre’&lt;br&gt;Consultation and secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To establish organizational system and women leadership</td>
<td>‘selected women cadres’</td>
<td>- Women and Human Rights&lt;br&gt;- Village Democratization&lt;br&gt;- Women and Development&lt;br&gt;- Gender sensitive civil servants&lt;br&gt;- Gender based budget&lt;br&gt;- Leadership (character, communication strategy, etc)&lt;br&gt;- Organizational→Need to think about strategy on strengthening organization cq. economic activities, etc.&lt;br&gt;- Advocacy/policy changing</td>
<td>Training within defined period of time or gradual; with deployment, action-reflection; need on development of advanced capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reinforce changing of development policy at village level cq. Optimization of the Village Act</td>
<td>Optimization of roles of society&lt;br&gt;Optimization of village institutions</td>
<td>- Development issue and women interest in working area&lt;br&gt;- Values based and local culture values based development&lt;br&gt;- Community and village development institution&lt;br&gt;- Status and Authority of Village&lt;br&gt;- Participative planning and Village Forum&lt;br&gt;- Cycle of planning and budgeting of village development&lt;br&gt;- Monitoring of community based development&lt;br&gt;- IT &amp; SID&lt;br&gt;- Asset Management, Village Finance, and BUMDes&lt;br&gt;- Village Regulation</td>
<td>General training (introduction&lt;br&gt;Thematic training/specialization (advanced training)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson learnt

• Rights awareness is important
  • Community organizing is necessary
• Income generating is needed
  • Flexibility of donor is must!
Agendas for the future research

• Now, there are some initiatives based on social inclusive approach such as
  Village diffable sensitive, DAMARA (Desa Mandiri Reforma Agraria), Desa mandiri buruh migran, Desa peduli korban politik, Desa peduli bencana, desa peduli kelompk agama minoritas

• What are they doing?
• Why they step that path?
• Under what circumstances?
• Who works with?
• What are the best or bad practices?