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Influence of Parental Involvement, Classified By Parent's Demographic Factors,  
and Current Education Policy on Student Achievement in High School  
in NongChok District, Bangkok, Thailand  
**Saralee Yosai**

Getting Out of The Trap of War on Drugs  
**Erwinton Simatupang**

The Traditional Economic Space Management System in Pasar Raya Padang,  
West Sumatera Post-Earthquake 2009  
**Zusmelia, Firdaus**

The Capacity Development of Non-Profit Organizations in the Growth Stage  
(An Action Research Based on The SSM)  
**Harry Nenobais, Azhar Kasim, Irfan Ridwan Maksum**

The Roles of Kulonprogo Regional Government in Developing Tourism Economy :  
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Actors Determination Strategy in Registered Social Network Patents in The Framework of Rewards  
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## From The Editors

One of the intriguing questions among scholars on emerging economies is whether or not democracy really works on the ground. The question, in actual sense, is asking whether democratic governance can bring about equal prosperity; quality of life for all people; responsible and accountable government, betterment in welfare for all citizens- the ideals of democracy. From a larger perspective, this question is not only crucial for emerging economies but also equally pertinent for developed countries. Fukuyama (2014), for example, noted that the ongoing process of democratic institutionalization is an issue that stretches from developing Nigeria and the weakening Arab spring that involved Egypt, Yemen and Libya, to the United States of America, which recently experienced a political decay under the so-called "veto-cracy". Democracy is a continuous process that requires continuous institutional development to ensure that the existing institutions remain pertinent to social issues and challenges in society.

To that end, linking democratic development to the actual performance of the government, is crucial for a couple of reasons. First, in the short run the performance of the government, which in fact can be gauged from the quality of public services in a democratic system, determines whether or not society finds democratic governance acceptable. Most people need quick fixes to their grievances, with democracy expected to have the capacity to deliver better policy and public services. Secondly, as democracy is nurtured through continual institutional building and "institutional renaissance", the extent to which the government is responsive to real social problems affecting society serves as the best indicator of public perception. Cases in developed countries provide ample evidence that whenever government effectiveness is questionable, something must be at fault with the institutional context, hence needs fixing.

There is little doubt that the capacity of local governments to make policies is an important indicator and gauge of the performance of a democratic government. This is an issue that has been even more important given the role that local governments play in delivering public services under decentralized governance framework. This is the theme of this JKAP edition. The edition specifically focuses on the ability of governments to tackle various social problems. Saralee Yosai starts with the edition with the study on education in Thailand. Using a case study of high schools in Nong Chok district, Bangkok, she analyses the influence that the involvement of parents has on student achievement. Her findings showed that the type of parent has significant influence on students' achievement. In her recommendation, she advises the need for collaboration among individual households, schools and communities to discuss steps that need to be taken to enhance students' achievement. By Erwinton Simatupang tackles another social policy issue: Indonesian government war on drugs. The article conducts a review of the basic tenets of the policy of drugs adopted by New Order authoritarian regime under Suharto and the post-'reformation' regimes under Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Joko Widodo. Some of the findings of the study show that the war on drugs is a populist policy that is strongly influenced by political interests, has not experienced fundamental change since the New Order range to the present day as reflected in its strong emphasis it places on law enforcement approach in resolving drug related problems. The article gives some recommendation that include the need for the government to adopt an alternative approach to dealing with the drugs problem that emphasizes social policy and putting in place conditions that prevent vulnerable individuals and groups from social exclusion. By recognizing social exclusion as the fundamental cause of drugs abuse, and implement social policy that deal with the problem, the government will have created a more effective solution to the drug abuse and addiction.

The capacity of local governments in making policies is an important component of an effective democratic government. This is particularly relevant to those developing countries, which have devolved various key authority from the central government to sub-national levels. Taking a case of Pasar Raya Padang in West Sumatra, Zuzmelia and Firdaus describe how local authorities should deal with policy dynamics and changes, especially in the aftermath of a big earthquake that affected Padang municipality. The market (*pasar*), is not just a place where sellers and buyers interact and make transactions, but is an economic institution that can affect various social aspects of society. In Kota Padang, the local government believes that hygiene, cleanness, and the modern market place are imperative for a well-functioning market place. However, many traders believe that the importance of the market place is not only limited to building infrastructure and modernization, but also equally important is the role it plays in preserving traditions, and nurturing social interactions among community members.

Harry Nenobais, Azhar Kasim and Irfan Ridwan Maksum, their article on capacity building in a non-profit organization that uses a case study of Papuan Pesat Foundation. Using the soft system methodology, the writers show that in its early phase, a non-profit organization must be equipped with transformational leadership, adopt a simple organizational design, and substantial improvement of the role of its managing board. The article identifies some critical areas for a non-profit organization, namely: human resource management, collaborative networks, business process, and public relations. Anggi Rahajeng in an article on nature-based tourism development in Kulonprogo district, presents another case of local governance. The writer argues the need for the local government focus on certain strategic pathways in developing its tourism sector, interalia: construction of tourist destination facilities, tourism marketing, tourism-related industries, and adopting an integrated approach in building local institutions. Specifically with regards to nature-based tourism industries, the local government is advised to take into consideration the capacity and environmental sustainability of nature-based resorts.

Aris Yaman presents a special case on how LIPI (National Institute for Knowledge and Science) registers patents for Indonesian inventors. Anchoring his argument on the fundamental argument that an prolific inventor must receive recognition if s(he) is to maintain or increase productivity, he uses a network analysis to explain the relationship between co-invention and registered patents, and in identifying actual actors who deserve patent awards. He argues that a productive inventor, based on frequency of discovering and registering patents, may not necessarily be an actor in the social network. In other words, a prolific inventor does not always mean that he/she is the central actor in the social network.

To all of our esteemed readers, we are pleased with all the interest, attention, and strong commitment you have shown to public policy and administration issues in Indonesia and the region. Enjoy reading!

Editor in Chief



Prof. Dr. Wahyudi Kumorotomo, MPP