Tourism Prospects of West Manggarai Regency View From Availability of Supporting Infrastructure

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Abstract. This study was conducted with the aim of knowing the number of local tourists and international tourists visiting Labuan Bajo, infrastructure development before and after rehabilitation. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The results showed that there was a significant increase in the number of visitors from both local and international tourists. The infrastructure development carried out also supports the increasing number of local and international tourist visitors and facilitates the smooth delivery of distribution needed by hoteliers. With the availability of adequate infrastructure, in this case roads, distribution delivery which was previously stalled before infrastructure development can run smoothly so as to support the hospitality business, tourists also visit Labuan Bajo which is synonymous with beach and mountain tourism, due to good infrastructure development making it easier for tourists to visit Labuan Bajo. access to various places in Labuan Bajo, airports that have undergone rehabilitation also contributed to increasing the number of tourists visiting Labuan Bajo. The rehabilitated airport also plays a very important role in increasing the number of visitors to Labuan Bajo.

Keywords: Tourism; Infrastructure; Number of Tourists

1 Introduction

Talking about Indonesian tourism can be said to be endless. The territory of Indonesia, which stretches from Sabang to Merauke, deviates from sharing various kinds of wealth. Not only rich in natural resources, the territory of Indonesia is also rich in diverse cultures. The beautiful nature, the richness of flora and fauna, the diversity of culture and religion, as well as the hospitality of the identical Indonesian citizens make the name of Indonesia fragrant among tourists. The natural panorama and cultural uniqueness make many tourists willing to travel far from their country to Indonesia. The level of visits by Indonesian tourists itself can be said to be very large every year despite fluctuations. An overview of the level of tourist visits to Indonesia can be seen in the following graph:



Source: https://www.ceicdata.com/id/indicator/indonesia/visitor-arrivals (2021) Fig. 1. Graph of Foreign Tourist Arrivals to Indonesia in August 2020-July 2021

Based on the graph above, it can be proven that the level of foreign tourists visiting Indonesia is very large even though it fluctuates every month. This fluctuating condition also occurred due to the Covid-19 outbreak, which affected the decline in tourist visits to Indonesia. However, based on the graph above, it can be said that despite being in a pandemic condition, the interest in visiting tourists is still quite large. The enthusiasm of tourists is influenced by the increasing number of vaccinations and the government's commitment to tackling Covid-19 in Indonesia. Based on these facts, it is no exaggeration if the Indonesian tourism sector is called one of the strongest tourism in the world. In addition to the high level of visits, the Indonesian tourism sector is also able to survive in the midst of critical conditions. No wonder the government is very interested in developing the Indonesian tourism sector because Indonesian tourism is indeed very promising and can be relied on as a sector to support the national economy. Seeing the great potential of the tourism sector in Indonesia, the central government under the leadership of President Joko Widodo has intensively issued many policies aimed at strengthening the tourism sector. The policies also vary, ranging from infrastructure development to assembling various programs and laws and regulations that make it easier for business actors in the tourism sector to run their businesses. Not only that, the central and regional governments have autonomously carried out various promotions of tourist attractions in regions in Indonesia. The result can now be said that many new "Bali" have been found in Indonesia and have made this new tourist attraction a tourist attraction for foreign tourists.

The Province of East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) is not left behind in its efforts to maximize the existing tourism sector. With an area consisting of several islands, NTT certainly has many tourist attractions that can be developed as a tourism destination. One area that has great potential for the tourism sector is West Manggarai Regency. West Manggarai Regency has long relied on tourism as a regional economic engine. Labuan Bajo, which is increasingly famous for its beauty, is located in the West Manggarai area. Not only that, Komodo National Park is also in the West Manggarai area. Labuan Bajo itself is already quite widely known, but public interest in Labuan Bajo has increased in recent years. Even the beauty of Labuan Bajo has captivated many homeland celebrities such as celebrities. The celebrities showcased their vacation in Labuan Bajo on their Instagram accounts. Of course, this makes Labuan Bajo's name more famous in the eyes of local and foreign tourists. The soaring name of Labuan Bajo made the government of course provide extraordinary support. Starting from the central government establishing various new and modern infrastructures to local governments

regulating the availability of services and services in Labuan Bajo to establishing various collaborations with investors to develop the tourism sector in Labuan Bajo to be more powerful and modern. Business actors in the tourism sector are also competing to be able to enliven the business in the tourism sector. Starting from business actors with large capital to small traders around the tourism area. In short, all parties want to take advantage of the tourism sector to gain economic benefits.

The growth of the tourism sector in West Mangagarai looks very good but that does not mean that it does not face challenges and threats. The increase in visits to these areas encourages the local government to continue to improve and increase the availability of infrastructure and raise the standard of infrastructure feasibility and public services to support the comfort of tourists. The availability of tourist accommodation facilities such as hotels and travel agents must also be increasingly considered. Accommodation is not only about the number of accommodation providers available but also the feasibility and quality of service. Another problem that also needs to be considered is the availability of quality human resources and also the fulfillment of logistics needs in tourism areas. This shows that in line with the large interest in visiting, it will be accompanied by an increase in the need for quality services. Seeing the magnitude of the tourism potential of West Manggarai Regency and also the magnitude of the challenges that must be faced in maximizing the tourism potential in the area, the researcher wants to analyze academically about the tourism prospects of West Manggarai Regency.

2 Literature Review

2.1 Tourist

Prof. Huzieker and Prof. K. Krapf in Wibowo (2018) defines tourism as tourism is the sum total of relationships and phenomena arising from the travel and stay of foreigners (Ortsfremde), provided that residence does not imply the formation of a permanent resident. Schulalard in Wibowo (2018) mentions tourism as the operating sun, especially economic ones, which are directly related to the entry, stay and migration of foreigners within a certain country, city or region. Meanwhile, Suwantoro (2004) defines tourism as a process of temporary departure from a person or more to another place outside their place of residence for various reasons such as economic, social, political, cultural, religious, health and other interests, such as simply wanting to know, increasing experience and learning. Tourism according to Burkat in Damanik (2006) is the temporary and short-term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they usually live and work and also their activities during their stay at a destination. Based on some of these opinions, it can be said that tourism is a journey carried out by a person or group of people to a place outside their residence due to certain reasons. Tourism consists of several forms. According to Muljadi (2009) forms of tourism that are widely known by the public are:

- a) According to the number of people traveling
 - 1) Individual tourism
 - 2) Collective tourism
- b) According to the motivation of the trip
 - 1) Recreational tourism
 - 2) Tourism to enjoy the trip
 - 3) Cultural tourism

- 4) Sports tourism
- 5) Business tourism
- 6) Tourism for convention purposes
- c) According to visiting time
 - 1) Seasonal tourism
 - 2) Occasional tourism
- d) According to the object
 - 1) Cultural tourism
 - 2) Recuperational tourism
 - 3) Commercial tourism
 - 4) Political tourism
- e) According to the means of transportation
 - 1) Land tourism
 - 2) Sea or river tourism
 - 3) Air tourism
 - 4) According to age
 - 5) Youth tourism
 - 6) Adult tourism

2.2 Tourism Facilities

Facilities are facilities provided by tourism managers for services or opportunities for tourists to enjoy them. With the availability of facilities, it will encourage potential tourists to visit and enjoy tourist objects for a relatively long time. Its facilities and services will make it easier for people to visit the desired tourist attraction and movement in tourist sites (Spillane: 1990). The facilities referred to by Oka Yoeti (1997: 8) consist of:

- a) The main tourism facilities (Main Tourism Superstructure), which are included in this group are: travel agents and tour operators, tourist transportation and accommodation, catering trades and tourist objects and tourist attractions.
- b) Tourism complementary facilities (Supplementing Tourism Superstructure), consisting of: recreational and sports facilities, such as sky resorts, horse riding, boating facilities, hunting safaris, hunting cameras and photographs.
- c) Tourism supporting facilities (Supporting Tourism Superstructure) such as: Nightclub, steamboat, casino, entertainment, souvenir shop, and others.
- d) Public infrastructure, consisting of: a network of roads, bridges, sea, land and air transportation, as well as other infrastructure consisting of a clean water supply system, power plants, telecommunications facilities, post offices, hospitals, gas stations, pharmacies.

2.3 Tourism Infrastructure

Bunaken et al (2007) define infrastructure as a general infrastructure that includes a clean water supply system, electric power, roads and bridges, ports, airports, terminals or train stations. In the Oxford Dictionary (2021) infrastructure is defined as the basic systems and services necessary for a country or organization to run smoothly, such as buildings, transportation, and water and electricity supply. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (2021) infrastructure is also called infrastructure which is defined as everything that is the main support for the implementation of a process (business, development, project, and so on). Based

on some of these definitions, it can be said that tourism infrastructure is everything that is built to support tourism activities.

3 Methodology

This type of research is a field research (feld research) because this research is carried out systematically by collecting data in the field. The approach in this research is descriptive qualitative. Qualitative research is research that studies or interprets phenomena, which are analyzed from the process and meaning attached to the researcher. This research seeks to bring out various meanings in different contexts, including various methods, which include interpretive and naturalistic views of the subject under study. This study uses secondary data, obtained through newspapers, both online and printed newspapers, data is also explored on social media and statistical data from the Central Bureau of Statistics of West Manggarai Regency. Data collection techniques used in this study were observation techniques and library data collection. The data collected is then described and then a conclusion is drawn based on the data.

4 Results and Discussion

The West Manggarai Regency area can be said to be an area that has promising tourism prospects. The superior natural wealth of West Manggarai Regency is the existence of the endangered Komodo dragon (varanus komodoensis) in Komodo National Park which includes several islands, namely Komodo Island, Rinca Island, Padar Island and several small islands around the three islands. In addition to the endangered Komodo dragon, West Manggarai also has a beautiful marine area that has the potential as a marine tourism object that attracts tourists. In addition, West Manggarai has several potential tourist objects such as the Compang Tureng Altar Site, Ledang Fort, Old Cannon, Watu About, and so on. While the natural attractions as already mentioned are Komodo, Puncak Waringing, Wae Cecu, Wae Rana, Binongko Hill, Batu Cermin Cave, and so on. With the existence of these various tourist objects, the tourism sector business will be very promising. To support this promising tourism sector, West Manggarai has provided various facilities and infrastructure which are described as follows:

4.1 Hospitality

With the large number of tourist attractions in West Manggarai, various supporting tourism activities are needed, one of which is lodging. Currently, there are many lodging places operating in West Manggarai and more lodging places will be opened in line with the government's plan to make Labuan Bajo the main tourism destination of Indonesia and the increasing popularity of tourist attractions in West Manggari. In 2019, there were 105 hotels in West Manggarai. This number is up 7.14% from 2018. Of the 105 dotels in West Manggarai, 103 hotels are in Komodo District and only 2 hotels are in Lembor District. Details of the types of hotels in West Mangarai are as follows:



Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021). Fig. 2. Number of Hotels in West Manggarai Regency

From the available hotels there are room availability with the following details:



Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021) **Fig. 3.** Availability of Rooms and Beds in Star Hotels

Based on the data that has been presented, it can be seen that the number of star hotels is less than non-star hotels. This can be seen as a blessing, especially for investors who have large enough capital to be able to invest in establishing new star hotels. Along with the government's policy to make Labuan Bajo a premium tourist destination, it is not wrong if around the tourist sites there are jotel services with premium waiters. Therefore, the hotel sector will become a sector with promising prospects.

Table 1. Number of Hotel Guests in West Manggarai Regency 2019

Bulan Month	Tamu Asing Foreign Visitor	Tamu Domestik Domestic Visitor
(1)	(2)	(3)
Januari/ <i>January</i>	4764	5 522
Februari/February	4 796	4745
Maret/March	5 865	6741
April/April	8 979	7 624
Mei/May	8515	6 479
Juni/June	10 035	10 767
Juli/ <i>July</i>	13 850	10 519
Agustus/August	15 815	10 419
September/September	11 819	10 026
Oktober/October	11 294	11 675
November/November	8 004	10 793
Desember/December	7 050	14 029
Jumlah/Total	110 786	109 339

Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021).

Based on the data above, it can be seen that the number of hotel guests, both foreign tourists and domestic tourists, continues to increase. Even foreign tourists are more numerous than domestic tourists. This explains that the tourism offered by Labuan Bajo as Super Premium Tourism is not inferior to its two main competitors, namely Bali and West Nusa Tenggara. Especially the attraction, namely Komodo as a rare animal, of course, will provide its own experience for tourists visiting Labuan Bajo.

4.2 Restaurant

Still related to the large tourism potential in West Manggarai, apart from a place to stay, tourists also expect culinary places around the tourist attraction. Establishing a restaurant business will certainly be the right business because in addition to being close to existing tourist attractions, raw materials in the form of marine products are easy to obtain because West Manggarai has a large coastal and marine area.

Table 2. Number of Restaurants by District in West Manggarai Regency 2017-2020

Bulan Month	2017	2018	2019	2020
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Komodo	13	10	12	31
Boleng	-	-	-	-
Sano Nggoang	-	- 16		-
Mbeliling	-	- 70.	-	2
Lembor	-	4.9	-	1
Welak	-	10/9-	-	-
Lembor Selatan	- 30		-	-
Kuwus	-1/F.O.	-	-	-
Ndoso	10	-	-	-
Kuwus Barat	:100.	-	-	-
Macang Pacar	0 -	-		-
Pacar	-	-	-	-
Manggarai Barat	13	11	12	34

Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021).

From the data above, it can be seen that the number of restaurants in West Manggarai district has increased significantly and in 2020 there will also be a significant increase. This means that with the development of tourism in Labuan Bajo, the culinary business will also have a positive impact as shown in the table for the Komodo sub-district. With so many tourists visiting of course they will explore tourist areas and need food. This has led to an increase in the number of restaurants.

4.3 Transportation

To support the mobility of tourists, the presence of transportation service providers is a promising market need. In addition to car travel service providers, there are already several online transportation services that are very possible to run in West Manggarai, especially in the area around Labuan Bajo City.

3.2 Fishery

West Manggarai has at least 23 villages classified as coastal villages which are mostly occupied by fishermen. The sea area of West Manggarai is also rich in various types of fish consisting of Main Pelagic Fish and Demersal Fish. Main Pelagic fish production in 2020 is 76,139 tons of mackerel, 331,377 tons of tembang fish, 339,477 scad fish, 1,507,832 tons of tuna, 75,760 tons of skipjack tuna, 30,025 tons of mackerel, 13,699 tons of tuna, 336,065 tons of anchovies, 15 tons of selar fish, and 4,512 julung-julung fish. While the production of demersal fish, 124,319 tons of grouper, 58,279 tons of yellow tail fish, 57,619 tons of kuwe/bengkolo fish, 115,951 tons of katamba fish, and 35,040 tons of snapper. In addition, there were also non-fish catches in the form of 78,871 tons of squid, 60,724 tons of octopus, 5,406 tons of crabs, and 6,637 tons of barong shrimp. Based on these data, it can be concluded that the fisheries sector can be a good and cheap investment object because its resources are in nature.

4.4 Marine Product Cultivation

The cultivation of marine products in question is not fish or non-fish marine animals. An example is the cultivation of seaweed and pearls. With a wide beach, it is very possible for business people and investors to develop a pearl and seaweed cultivation business. Pearls can be sold at high prices as raw materials for making jewelry and cosmetics. Seaweed can also be used as food and cosmetic ingredients.

4.5 Agriculture and farming

This sector may be less ogled because more people are interested in the tourism sector in West Manggarai. However, if you look at the area of land and forest owned by West Manggarai, investment in agriculture and plantations is very possible. Moreover, hilly areas have the potential to open land for plantation commodities such as coffee, while in coastal areas, coconut plantations can be opened.

4.6 Infrastructure Availability

The presence of infrastructure in the region is very influential on all regional economic activities. The availability of infrastructure is also a consideration for investors to invest. The infrastructure is used for the distribution of the company's logistics. When the infrastructure does not support it, the company has to spend a lot of money to be able to distribute logistics. This means that the condition of inadequate infrastructure contributes to the decline in the attractiveness of regional investment. West Manggarai Regency itself has done a lot of infrastructure development. One of the vital infrastructure is roads. Currently, the length of roads in the West Manggarai area is 1,461.90 km, with details of 645,085 km of asphalt roads, 350,213 km of gravel roads, and 231,593 km of dirt roads.



Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021) **Fig. 4.** Panjang Jalan di Kabupaten Manggarai Barat

This shows that the availability of roads in the West Manggarai area is adequate, although there are still roads that need to be improved.



Source: BPS Kabupaten Manggarai Barat (2021)

Fig. 5. Graph of Total Length of Roads with Sidewalks and Drainage in West Manggarai District

Meanwhile, the condition of the total length of roads that have sidewalks and drainage in West Manggarai Regency has not changed from 2017 to 2019. However, in 2020 there was a significant increase. This illustrates that the government supports the tourism sector by paying attention to supporting elements such as infrastructure conditions, in this case, road conditions. So that it can provide comfort when tourists visit and will increase the number of tourists visiting. West Manggarai also has one international airport, namely Komodo Airport and one sea port, namely Labuan Bajo Seaport. Labuan Bajo Seaport and Komodo Airport operate to transport passengers as well as loading and unloading goods. In 2020, the Labuan Bajo Sea Port has been visited by 7,230 ships, unloading 107,061 passengers, carrying 96,425 passengers, unloading 95,808 goods and loading 17,447 goods.

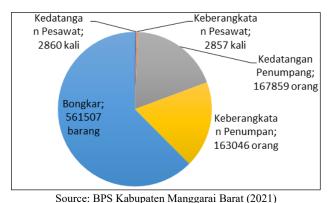


Fig. 5. Number of Aircraft Arrivals, Aircraft Departures, Passenger Arrivals, Passenger Departures, Unloading of Goods in West Manggarai Regency

Meanwhile, Komodo Airport has served 2,860 aircraft arrivals, 2,857 departures, received 167,859 arriving passengers, dispatched 163,046 passengers, 561,507 unloading goods and 189,253 loading goods. Based on these data, it can be said that existing ports and airports can support transportation activities and distribution by air and sea. Other supporting infrastructure is electricity, water and communication networks. Electricity in West Manggarai is provided by PT. PLN. In 2020 the installed electrical power in the West Manggarai Regency is 58,565 KW and produces 61,841,611 KWh of electrical power. Meanwhile, clean water is provided by the Regional Drinking Water Company (PDAM) of West Manggarai and distributes 135,627 m3 of clean water to all customers in West Manggarai. The communication network infrastructure in West Manggarai currently provides a 4G network and based on the Policy of the Minister of Communication and Information Jhony G. Plate Labuan Bajo was chosen as the pilot project area for the implementation of the 5G network, of course this will have an impact on improving network quality in the West Manggarai Regency area.

4.7 Location Competitiveness Comparison

a) Main Determinants of Location

West Manggarai Regency, as described in the previous explanations, has abundant wealth, both from natural resources to socio-cultural fields that are inherent in the lives of the people of West Manggarai. Its unique natural resources such as the presence of rare animals and the beauty of the beach and sea make West Manggarai worthy of being called a premium tourist attraction. Not only the extraordinary natural wealth, West Manggarai is also blessed with the gift of a rich and valuable cultural order. Until now, there are still many historical relics in the form of building architecture, dances, traditional ceremonial rites, weaving crafts, and traditional drinks such as Sopi which are cultural attractions that can be sold to tourists. In addition, the merging of traditional values with Christian values in West Manggarai creates cultural and spiritual attractions such as celebrating the Eucharist using the Manggarai language to dressing in traditional Manggarai clothes. Not only that, West Manggarai is also rich in natural and marine products. Agricultural products in the form of agricultural and plantation products can become commodities that sell in the market. Marine products produced by the West Manggrai Sea are also very strategic because they are able to produce

large amounts of fish catch. Therefore, the selling value of West Manggarai comes from various sectors, of course, with the tourism sector as the dominant sector which is the main attraction. However, this does not rule out the possibility that there are other markets that are quite promising besides tourism. Based on the available data and explanations, the following sectors can be recommended to be offered to investors: (1) Tourism, (2) Accommodation (Hospitality), (3) Transportation, (4) Restaurant (Culinary tourist spot), (5) Fishing, (6) Plantation and Agriculture, (7) Cultivation of Non-Fish Marine Products.

b) Main Competitors and Locations of Comparison

Seeing the tourism sector which is the most selling sector in West Manggarai, there are two main competitors, namely Bali and West Nusa Tenggara. Both areas are also famous for their tourism. Even the Bali area is very well known by foreign tourists to be dubbed the "Entrance of Indonesia". In fact, not a few people from abroad are more familiar with Bali than Indonesia itself. Therefore, many investors are interested and invest in these two areas because they have clear prospects. This can be seen in the following investment realization data:

Table 3. Realization of Foreign Investment by Province

Province	Foreign Investment Realization by Province (Million US\$)					
	Project		Investment			
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Bali	1 490,0	2 443,0	3 967,0	1 002,5	426,0	293,3
Nusa Tenggara Barat	651,0	1 223,0	1 776,0	251,6	270,7	302,1
Nusa Tenggara Timur	175,0	363,0	520,0	100,4	126,8	81,3
Indonesia	21 972,0	30 354,0	56 726,0	29 307,9	28 208,8	28 666,3

Source: https://www.bps.go.id (2021).

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the realization of Foreign Capital investment in East Nusa Tenggara is less than the two neighboring regions, namely Bali and West Nusa Tenggara. Where in 2020 the realization of investment from abroad in NTT is only \$81.3 million or 0.284% of the total investment in Indonesia. While West Nusa Tenggara is \$302.1 million, this can be due to the mega project of mandailing as a new tourism destination for NTB since October 2019. Meanwhile, the realization of domestic source investment is only 0.732% of the total national investment. This shows that the attractiveness of investment in NTT is still inferior to its competitors, namely NTB and Bali.

Table 4. Realization of Domestic Investment (Billion IDR)

Provinsi	Investment		
	2018	2019	2020
Bali	1 548,8	7 393,2	5 432,7
Nusa Tenggara Barat	4 135,1	3 519,0	6 582,4
Nusa Tenggara Timur	4 246,1	3 752,6	3 028,5
Indonesia	328 604,9	386 498,4	413 535,5

Source: https://www.bps.go.id (2021).

Based on BPS data in table 4, it can be seen that the Realization of Domestic Investment in East Nusa Tenggara is also below that of Bali and West Nusa Tenggara. From 2018 to 2019 the investment value of NTT (4,246.1) was above NTB (4,135.1), but in 2020 the investment value of NTT (3,028.5) had a constant trend but NTB (6,582.4) experienced a significant increase. Meanwhile, the realization of domestic source investment is only 0.732% of the total

national investment. However, even this is not necessarily a bad thing. When viewed from the attractiveness of superior tourism objects from the West Manggarai area, especially the Komodo dragon as one of the wonders of the world and Super Premium Tourism, it has its own charm for investors or entrepreneurs to enter the tourism market in West Manggarai. The available land is still very sufficient and also when compared to Bali and NTB, West Manggarai has a lower investment cost. Support for investment-friendly policies and supporting infrastructure supported by the Super Premium Tourism development mega-project will also make investors feel safe running their business in West Mangarai.

5 Conclusion

Based on the discussion described earlier, it can be concluded that in general the availability of infrastructure that supports tourism activities in West Manggarai Regency is good. This can be seen in the availability of various infrastructures in the West Manggarai area. The challenge that the government must face in optimizing the tourism sector is the low investment. Investment can encourage the development of the tourism sector, especially in terms of tourism accommodation service providers. Therefore, the local government must promote investment to involve investors so that tourism in West Manggarai will develop in the future.

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