# Optimizing The Role of *Desa Adat* in Handling Covid-19

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Abstract. The establishment of the Covid-19 Prevention Mutual Assistance Task Force Based on Desa Adat in Bali, places Desa Adat as the spearhead of handling Covid-19 throughout the island in Bali. The role of Desa Adat as one of the policy actors who collaborate in handling Covid-19 in Bali in general and in Denpasar City in particular is highly expected. This qualitative descriptive study aims to analyze the role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar City. Analyzing the role of Desa Adat as the spreadhead in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar City is interesting, because with the issuance of a Joint Decree of the Governor with the Bali Province Desa Adat Council, as one of the policies for handling Covid-19, it has not been able to play an optimal role. Data were collected through observation, literature study and interviews with informants who were determined by purposive sampling. The results show that the role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 has not been optimal because the achievement of activity objectives has not been in accordance with the plan. Alternative decisions still depend on the various potential resources of each customary village. The ability to utilize the limited resources owned is still not optimal in alternative decisions. Meanwhile, the factors that hinder the optimization of the role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar City are internal and external factors of Desa Adat.

Keywords: Traditional Village, Optimization

## 1 Introduction

As an urban city with high community mobility, causing a high intensity of interaction, it opens up opportunities for local transmission to accelerate the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak. One of the policies to prevent and overcome the spread of COVID-19 in Bali is the issuance of a Joint Decree of the Governor with the Bali Province Traditional Village Council Number: 472/1571/PPDA/DPMA Number: 05/SK/MDA-Prov Bali/III/2020, concerning Establishment of a Mutual Cooperation Task Force for Covid-19 Prevention Based on Desa Adat in Bali. Expectations for the Role of Desa Adat are very high to prevent the spread of Covid 19 and handle its impacts. The role of Desa Adat as one of the actors who collaborate in handling Covid-19 in Bali in general and in Denpasar City in particular is highly expected.

The involvement of traditional institutions such as traditional banjars and Desa Adat is intended as the spearhead of the epidemic prevention, as the front line in dealing with COVID- 19 in Denpasar City. However, based on the results of research on actor collaboration in handling Covid19 in Denpasar City, it turned out that the traditional village had not yet played an optimal role. This can be seen from the process of involvement and the number of the spread of Covid that occurred. In this regard, this research is important to identify the optimization of the role of Desa Adat as the implementation of the Governor's SKB and MDA policies 472/1571/PPDA/DPMA and SK Number: 05/SK/MDA-Prov Bali/III/2020 concerning the Establishment of a Mutual Cooperation Task Force. Prevention of Covid-19 Based on Desa Adat in Bali, in an effort to overcome the Covid-19 outbreak in Denpasar City.

#### **3** Results and Discussion

To optimize the government's role in implementing public policies and providing public services, it requires the involvement of various parties. Moreover, in the 21st century when the new public governance paradigm began to be applied in developing countries, the involvement of all parties, namely the government, civil society, and the private sector in the administration of government, was prioritized. Likewise with the handling of infectious disease outbreaks, the involvement and cooperation of various parties is needed.

Referring to Law no. 4 of 1984 concerning Outbreaks of Communicable Diseases, in Chapter I Article 1a, the Ministry of Health defines an infectious disease outbreak as an outbreak of an infectious disease in the community whose number of sufferers has significantly increased beyond the usual situation at a certain time and area and can cause havoc [1]. Based on the definition of an infectious disease outbreak, it can be understood how important the role or participation of various parties is to help the government prevent or suppress its transmission. The rapid spread of the pandemic outbreak must be faced together by the government, interest groups, non-governmental institutions, the mass media and the community.

Likewise, the COVID-19 pandemic requires multidimensional handling, because it affects various areas of life, thus requiring multidimensional policies. Multidimensional policies in their implementation require the involvement of various actors, both government and non-government [2]. The participation of various parties in the form of collaborative cooperation is urgently needed to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. Because with the synergistic cooperation of all existing components, it is hoped that the spread of the outbreak can be controlled, and the impact can be minimized. Optimizing the role of actors involved in the synergy of policy implementation is very important. Because with an optimal role, the hope of achieving the goals of the collaborative process of actors in overcoming an outbreak will be maximized.

Based on previous research, it can be stated that the role of Desa Adat in efforts to overcome the Covid-19 pandemic is very important. Because the cooperation of government actors and Desa Adat is important in implementing various policies, especially those related to disaster management and disease outbreaks. Cooperation in overcoming efforts according to the role of each institution will greatly support the achievement of the program or policy being implemented. Optimizing the role of Desa Adat is very important to do.

There are three elements of optimization problems that must be identified, namely goal achievement, decision alternatives, and limited resources. The goal of optimization can be in the form of maximization or minimization. Maximization is used when the optimization objective relates to profit, revenue, and the like. While minimization is used for optimization purposes related to cost, time, distance, and the like. The determination must of course be adjusted to what will be maximized or minimized.

Alternative decisions are activities carried out to obtain or achieve a goal. Decision alternatives are available using limited resources for decision making. Decision making is also faced with several options that need to be considered well. Resources are sacrifices that must be made to achieve the goals set. The availability of these resources is limited. This resulted in the need for an optimization process [3].

The benefits of optimization can be seen from efforts to determine goals, identify various obstacles and provide more appropriate solutions that can be used for decision making. If it is related to this research, in an effort to handle Covid-19 in Denpasar City, optimizing the role of Desa Adat is an effort to increase activities that are expected to realize the desired or desired benefits. Thus, optimization is a form of effort, process, method, and action by utilizing the sources of funds and resources owned by an area to achieve the desired and most profitable conditions in a reasonable manner within certain limits and certain criteria.

There are 35 Desa Adat in Denpasar City and are members of the Denpasar City Traditional Village Council (MDA), which has the authority to provide advice, consideration, guidance, interpretation, and decisions in the fields of custom, tradition, culture, socio-religious, local wisdom, customary law and economics. customary law, so that the Pakraman/customary village has the right to regulate its territory. Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2019 concerning Desa Adat is a reference for Desa Adat in carrying out their functions. Problems related to territory and religion are the responsibility of the traditional village, especially the banjar scope, which always coordinates closely with the TNI and Polri.

Joint Decree of the Governor and MDA Number 472/1571/PPDA/DPMA and Number 05/SK/MDA-Prov Bali/III/2020 concerning the establishment of a task force for Covid-19 prevention based on Desa Adat in Bali on March 13, 2020, is a Balinese strategy in carrying out its policies. The decision of the Governor and the MDA in the formation of a task force made the traditional village the spearhead or the frontline in protecting its territory, assisted by the Babinkamtibmas, Babinsa, and related stakeholders. The appointment of a traditional village as a task force is a careful consideration made by the government to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Desa Adat carry out functions and goals, one of which is to increase the socio-cultural resilience of Traditional Village Kramas in order to realize Traditional Village Kramas that are able to maintain social unity as part of national resilience in the fight against Covid-19. The Balinese cultural values that are inherent and bound by customary rules directly become a kind of unwritten doctrine that any activity held must involve the intervention of the traditional village. The handling of COVID-19 in Bali, which includes Desa Adat, is a positive value that can be used by other regions because Bali has 2 (two) governments in regulating its territory, namely the traditional village and the official village. The official village is the same rule as other regions in Indonesia, while the traditional village has its own rules in Bali.

Desa Adat as the spearhead of the Task Force for Mutual Cooperation Prevention of Covid-19 have the main task, abstract and scale tasks. The main task is to empower Krama Desa Adat and Yowana to work together in preventing Covid-19 in their traditional village areas in a niskala and scale; use the Traditional Village facilities as a coordination post for SATGAS; coordinate and synergize with related parties. The abstract task is nunas ica with the stakeholders at Kahyangan Tiga Temple and asking Ida Bhatara Sasuhunan in accordance with the Traditional Village Dresta so that the Covid-19 outbreak will end soon for the sake of harmony in nature, Balinese manners and culture. Meanwhile, the task of preventing Covid-19 is through education, socialization, prevention, guidance and supervision; directing manners to limit oneself to activities that involve many people; to record the manners of the customary village of immigrants and people under monitoring (ODP); directing the manners of those affected by Covid-19 to self-isolate; report the manners of ODP guests to the nearest puskesmas; prepare cleaning tools such as masks, hand sanitizers, wash hands with soap. Another task of the scale is to build mutual cooperation among the customary village manners by recording the manners of those who need assistance with basic needs; collect basic basic needs for krama that are able to jointly distribute to affected krama; raise funds voluntarily for those in need.

Optimizing the role of Desa Adat related to traditional village tasks as contained in the Joint Decree of the Governor of Bali with the Bali Province MDA can be seen from the objectives, alternative decisions and limited resources. The purpose of the Traditional Village as the spearhead of the overall handling of Covid-19 has similarities because it is guided by a joint decree or implementation of the Bali Governor's SKB policy and the Bali Province MDA N0. 472/1571/PPDA/DPMA and SK Number: 05/SK/MDA-Prov Bali/III/2020 concerning the Establishment of the Covid-19 Prevention Mutual Assistance Task Force Based on Desa Adat in Bali. So, the goal is the same, namely to prevent the spread of Covid-19. In alternative decisions, there are variations based on the ability of the traditional village head to take a role in handling Covid-19, while the limited resources are related to the resources owned by each traditional village.

## 4 Conclusion

Judging from the measurement indicators for optimizing the role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar City, it can be concluded that the Role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar City has not been optimal. This is indicated by the fact that there are still indicators of optimal size that have not been met, namely in the decision alternative indicators. Alternative decisions are very dependent on the limited resource potential of each traditional village. Alternative decisions can be optimal when the potential resources can be maximally useful in making alternative decisions. The difference in the resource potential of each traditional village affects the achievement of the goals formulated in handling Covid-19. Based on this, it can be stated that the optimization of the role of Desa Adat in handling Covid-19 in Denpasar has not been optimal.

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