

Strengthening Community Participation with Simpeldesa Sambirejo Application: A Review of Agile and Digital Governance Principles

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Abstract: This research aims to determine the process of community empowerment through the Simpeldesa Sambirejo application. This research brings similarities to the application of Agile Government and Digital Governance principles in the development and implementation of these applications. Apart from that, the implementation of the Simpeldesa Sambirejo application also applies Digital Governance principles which involve the use of digital technology to improve the efficiency and quality of public services. The use of this application has provided significant benefits in facilitating public access to information and public services, thereby increasing public participation in the decision-making process. However, before the application becomes Simpeldesa, an agile and digital government is needed so that it can make maximum use of technology. This is directly related to how Simpeldesa as a government tool can contribute to society in providing agile and digital services. Therefore, it would be interesting to do so.

Keyword: Simpeldesa; Agile; Digital Governance.

INTRODUCTION

Community empowerment aims to increase the participation and active role of citizens in development (Noor, 2011). In the era of digitalization and information technology, developing technology-based applications is an effective approach to empowering society. One example is the Simple Sambirejo Village application, implemented in Sambirejo Village. This application has made a positive contribution in strengthening the principles of Agile Government (Adaptive and Responsive Government). This scientific article discusses community empowerment through the Simple Village Sambirejo application by focusing on Agile Government principles. First, to understand the concept of community empowerment, it should be noted that it is not limited to providing direction or assistance but also involves creating opportunities for the community to actively participate in decision-making and implementing development programs.

The principles of Agile Government refer to an adaptive and responsive government approach, where government decisions and actions are guided by the active participation of society and the effective use of technology. The Sambirejo Village Simple Application has succeeded in becoming a form of implementation of Agile Government principles. This application provides Sambirejo Village residents with easy and fast access to participate in development via digital platforms (Setyowati, 2023). Through this application, the public can express aspirations, provide input, report problems, and access information related to ongoing development programs. This scientific article examines how the implementation of the Simple

Village Sambirejo application has contributed to increasing community participation, communication effectiveness, and speed in decision-making and implementation of development programs. The analysis of Agile Government principles, as manifested through the Simple Desa Sambirejo application, aims to provide a deeper understanding of community empowerment through technology and its contribution to accelerating development at the village level.

The research background related to strengthening community participation with the SimpleDesa Sambirejo application involves a review of agile and digital governance principles. Agile methodologies have gained traction in government settings, with digital service teams like the U.S. Digital Service and the UK's Government Digital Service leading the way in adopting agile practices (Mergel et al., 2020). These agile approaches have been extended to state and local governments through innovation labs and civic service design teams, showcasing a new way of governing that emphasizes flexibility and responsiveness (Mergel et al., 2020). In government digital services, the adaptation of agile practices, such as the Agile Spotify Model, has been explored to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery (Wijaya, 2024). Incorporating agile principles, like continuous improvement through events such as sprint retrospectives and daily scrum meetings, addresses challenges in software development and digital product management (Moraga, 2023). Additionally, the multidimensional model of the new work environment in the digital age has been studied to enhance company performance and competitiveness through agile governance practices (Rožman et al., 2023).

Agile governance has also been applied in handling critical situations like the Covid-19 pandemic, as seen in the agile governance practices implemented by the Kampar District Health Office in Indonesia (Ramadyah et al., 2022). The integration of innovative technologies and agile methodologies in digital strategies has been highlighted as a way to drive sustainable development and enhance the application of new digital technologies (Maslak, 2023). Furthermore, user participation in e-government system development has been explored to improve coordination between user requirements and system expectations. The research landscape surrounding agile and digital governance principles in government settings underscores the importance of agility, collaboration, and continuous improvement in enhancing service delivery, promoting community participation, and addressing challenges in the digital era.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a qualitative method. This method allows researchers to gain an in-depth understanding of the community's experience in using the Simple Desa Sambirejo application and its impact on community empowerment. A qualitative approach also allows researchers to understand the social and cultural context that influences the implementation of Agile Government principles (Rijali, 2019). These findings can then be linked to the principles of Agile and digital governance related to community empowerment and the implementation of the Simple Village Sambirejo application. In this research, the library data used include journal articles, books, and news. This research involved several methodological stages, starting with data collection. This stage aims to gather the primary and secondary data. The next stage of data reduction aims to selectively refine data that was previously collected. The data analysis stage is designed to categorize and examine data that underwent the reduction process. Finally, the conclusion-drawing step aims to derive significance and value from the data that has been analyzed. Thus, this research methodology includes a series of structured steps to ensure the accuracy and relevance of research results.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Transparency and Accountability

In implementing a simple village application, of course there are various actors, both government, organizations, and individuals. Explanations must be provided clearly and accessible to ensure that stakeholders fully understand the impact of the system. In other words, accountability must be ensured through approaches that facilitate understanding using simulations and/or videos. According to research (Azim, 2023), using several agile governance principles, including Good Enough Governance, is a bureaucratic principle focused on public services as a form of achieving the vision and mission that has been established. In contrast, research (Apriliyanti et al., 2021), suggest that good governance requires adaptation to the organizational context. Similarly, research (Malik & Wahid, 2023) on Good Governance emphasizes the importance of organizational context in governance. From the explanation above, it can be concluded that Smart Dukcapil Bantul was created by the Bantul district government to facilitate the people of Bantul in processing out civil and population registration documents such as KTP, KIA, and KK digitally through access to the Smart Dukcapil Bantul application which can be used anywhere and anytime. This initiative aims to improve digital-based community services, helping Indonesia move towards Smart Society 5.0.

Agile governance emphasizes adaptability, responsiveness, and collaboration, which can enhance transparency and accountability in community engagement initiatives (Mergel et al., 2020). By adopting agile practices, such as continuous improvement and customer focus, governments can promote open communication and responsiveness to community needs (Moraga, 2023). Moreover, the incorporation of digital tools and processes in agile governance can facilitate communication and collaboration between government agencies and community members, fostering transparency in decision-making processes (Rožman et al., 2023). The use of innovative technologies, such as virtual reality and blockchain, can enhance transparency and accountability by providing secure and traceable platforms for community participation (Maslak, 2023). Additionally, the implementation of agile governance practices during critical situations, like the Covid-19 pandemic, demonstrates the importance of agile responses in ensuring transparency and accountability in government actions (Ramadyah et al., 2022). Furthermore, the concept of user participation in e-government system development underscores the significance of engaging community members in the design and implementation of digital services, promoting transparency and accountability in decision-making processes (Al-Yawer & Ahmad, 2018). By leveraging agile frameworks that prioritize incremental development and customer engagement, governments can enhance community participation and ensure that the needs and feedback of citizens are integrated into service delivery (Alruwaili et al., 2019).

Availability of Appropriate Choices in Terms of Quality and Quantity

This principle enhances the selection of appropriate levels of quality and quantity so that individuals can make decisions regarding the type of technology used to facilitate the performance of the village government in serving all village needs, provide open communication access to the community, and simplify processes for the government and village institutions (Kasiwi et al., 2023). It also aids village communities in conveying information, creating two-way communication, and promoting more transparent public information between the village government and residents. This agile principle emphasizes Human Focus. The main concern of the Human Focused principle is society. It emphasizes that the public should not be seen as passive but should have the freedom to get involved and participate in government administration (Gaffar, 2022; Halim et al., 2021; Zahra et al., 2022). Research by (Zahra et al.,

2022) also argues that Human Focused principles emphasize creating free space for the community to participate in helping government management.

Stakeholder Participation

To achieve the ultimate goal of realizing prosperity, happiness and freedom in society, it is crucial to have participation from various parties and individuals in designing systems related to digital technology such as the Simpeldesa application. Based on this idea, collaboration is carried out between stakeholders with diverse values. Therefore, it is essential to expand capabilities to achieve goals; in this context, the principle of agile governance is applied. A systematic and adaptive approach means that rapid and systematic change requires a team that is able to expand its capabilities, especially those that are intrinsic (Winata dkk., 2023). Similarly, as stated by (Suci Indah Luqmani & M. Husni Tamrin, 2022) regarding the Systematic and Adaptive Approach, the design created by the government for the Simpeldesa application is an effort to facilitate the administrative governance process through preventive efforts by providing online services. Research by (Yuliani, 2022) also focuses on improving services, including a focus on treatment in Bekasi City. It requires an evaluation of the implementation of treatment that has been conducted, including the simple village application program to assist the community and village officials.

Inclusiveness

Agile governance is flexible and adaptive in dealing with changes that occur within and outside society. With an inclusive approach, it becomes easier for the government and related organizations to identify, analyze, and address the barriers experienced by disadvantaged groups in society. This provides an opportunity to create responsive and sustainable solutions to eliminate inequality and disparities in society. Thus, the inclusiveness of agile governance can provide space for all community groups, including those who tend to be marginalized, to participate in decision-making processes, gain fair and equal access to public resources and services, and enjoy the benefits of equitable and sustainable development. This principle applies the principles of Simple Design and Continuous Refinement, which involves policies that are easy for the community to implement along with ongoing evaluation and adjustment (Rudiatin3, 2023). The role of stakeholders is crucial in driving change and is a key factor in the transformation process (Hawari & Kartini, 2023).

Appropriate Allocation of Responsibilities

Appropriate allocation of responsibilities in agile governance refers to the effective division of responsibilities between the various parties involved in implementing long-term plans, including the use of technology (Agustiyara et al., 2024). In this context, the proper allocation of responsibilities is crucial for ensuring the sustainability and success of long-term plans. Based on the Quick Wins principle, which focuses on long-term plans implemented by the government, efforts to support increased prosperity in society, the nation, and the state aims to achieve national goals as outlined in the opening of the 1945 Constitution (Amrulloh et al., 2022). Thus, this principle embodies the values of transparency and continuous improvement (Susilawati & Vallencia, 2021).

Availability of Corrective Actions

The availability of corrective steps in agile governance refers to the provision of corrective steps that can be taken to resolve disputes arising in online dispute resolution. In the current era of advanced technology, where online transactions are increasingly dominant, agile governance must ensure that effective mechanisms are available to resolve these disputes (Rasyid, S.B.A., Nurmandi, A., Suswanta, Mutiarin, D. & Public, 2021). In online dispute resolution, it is important

to ensure speed and efficiency in the resolution process. Agile governance needs to ensure that online dispute resolution mechanisms can handle disputes quickly and provide fair decisions. Simple and transparent procedures and the use of advanced technologies such as blockchain or automated decision support mechanisms can help achieve this goal. This principle applies the principles of simple design and continuous improvement using information technology which is crucial in every organization because it enhances efficiency in achieving information, extends global reach, and transparency. Supporting this view, Ningrum (2012) states that advances in communication and information technology over time have provided many benefits for the progress of society.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of the scientific work on qualitative methods for community empowerment through the Simple Desa Sambirejo application, with a review of Agile Government principles, is that the Simple Village Sambirejo Application has succeeded in empowering the community using the principles of Agile Government and digital governance. Agile Government principles, such as active community participation and transparency, have been reflected in the development and implementation of this application. The Simple Sambirejo Village application provides easy access to information and public services for the community. Through this application, the community can quickly access information related to village government, development programs, and participatory activities. Thus, through qualitative research methods with a focus on community empowerment through the Simple Desa Sambirejo application which is based on Agile Government principles, a better understanding can be achieved of how communities can play an active role in making decisions and improving their quality of life. This research provides guidance and recommendations for local governments in developing similar applications that are oriented toward community empowerment through active participation and Agile Government principles.

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