

SOCIAL RESILIENCE OF ACEH'S COMMUNITY POST-DISTRICT PEACE

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ABSTRACT Concept resilience social become key in understand dynamics post- Acehnese society peace . Resilience social reflect ability public For survive , recover , and build connection harmonious society after conflict prolonged . Research This aim For describe and analyze resilience programs social public in relation with decline poverty extreme in North Aceh Regency , as well as identify types of resilience programs socially capable change condition socio-economic public . Study This use approach qualitative descriptive with method observation , interviews, and studies documentation . Focus study covering two aspect main, namely (1) a reduction program poverty extreme through improvement participation force work , growth economy , access service social , education , and infrastructure basis , and (2) implementation of empowerment programs economy , aid education and health , as well as commitment government area. Research result show that North Aceh government has source adequate power However not optimal in allocation budget alleviation poverty . Access poor people towards education , health , and employment Still limited consequence low investment and weakness synergy inter -stakeholder. Poverty level still high at 16.86 % , while the strategic program like Aceh Kaya , UMi , and KUR Not yet give impact significant to decline poverty extreme . Findings This confirm the need reorientation policies and strengthening collaboration inter-agency For build resilience sustainable social development in post-conflict Aceh.

KEYWORDS: *Social Resilience, Extreme Poverty, Community Empowerment, North Aceh, Post-Conflict.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Fulfillment of basic needs is a fundamental aspect of human life to achieve social well-being and sustainability. (Rahmawati and Bayangkara 2024). According to Abraham Maslow in (Yuliana 2018) state Human needs encompass physiological aspects, safety, affection, esteem, and self-actualization, which drive social and economic activity. Within the context of the state, these needs are met through social welfare policies designed by the government to ensure that every

citizen receives protection and a decent standard of living.

of (UNDANG-UNDANG DASAR NEGARA REPUBLIK INDONESIA 1945 n.d.)Indonesia's Constitution stipulates a commitment to social welfare, affirming the state's responsibility to care for the poor and neglected children. The government continues to implement social protection programs to reduce social disparities and improve the quality of life for the community. However, many regions still face challenges in the equitable distribution of social services and poverty alleviation, including Aceh Province.

Aceh Province has a unique social dynamic due to its long history of armed conflict between the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) and the Indonesian government. The decades-long conflict has had profound social, economic, and psychological impacts. Following the signing of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2005 and the enactment of the Aceh Governance Law (LoGA) in 2006, Acehnese society has entered a post-conflict phase marked by a process of recovery and reconciliation.

In this post-conflict context, social resilience is a crucial concept in understanding the Acehnese people's ability to recover and build a harmonious social life. Social resilience encompasses the community's ability to adapt to stress, build social cohesion, and strengthen intergroup solidarity. Several previous studies, such as those by Prasetyo (2017), Hasan (2021), and Fitriani (2022), have shown that economic factors, education, and the role of local institutions contribute significantly to the social resilience of the Acehnese people.

However, even though Aceh received Rp 95.93 trillion in special autonomy funds from 2008 to 2022, poverty rates remain high. Data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS, 2023) shows that the poverty rate in Aceh reached 15.53%, with North Aceh being one of the regions with the highest levels of extreme poverty. Weak budget planning, low community participation, and minimal investment have made poverty alleviation programs ineffective.

This situation indicates that the social resilience of the Acehnese people, particularly in North Aceh Regency, has not been optimally developed. More targeted policy strategies are needed in the form of community empowerment programs, strengthening the local economy, and increasing access to education, health care, and basic infrastructure. (Setyawan et al. 2025).

This research is expected to contribute to enriching studies on post-conflict social resilience, as well as becoming a basis for making equitable and sustainable socio-economic development policies in Aceh Province.

2. METHOD

Study This use approach qualitative descriptive with design studies case . Approach This chosen For dig in a way deep experience , perspectives , and adaptive strategies Acehnese society in build resilience social post peace . Approach qualitative allows researchers interpret phenomenon social in a way contextual , with involving interaction direct between researchers and subjects field research (Fadli 2024). Study done in context natural with objective For understand dynamics social , economic and cultural the people of North Aceh after conflict . Study case chosen For highlight various characteristics and challenges faced communities in several areas, including Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar , and especially North Aceh as center poverty extreme in the province This.

Research location focused on North Aceh Regency , which is one of the areas with level poverty extreme highest in Aceh. Based on BPS data (2024), the number of poor people in the district This reached 104.49 thousand soul or 16.11% of the total population , decreasing A little compared to year previously (16.64%). Election location This based on considerations social and economic which describes complexity development post-conflict and inequality welfare interregional .

Informant study consists of from :

1. Regent and Regional Secretary of North Aceh Regency .
2. Chairman Bappeda , Head of Social Services , Health Services, and Education Services.
3. DPRK member in charge of welfare public .
4. Figure community and religious leaders .
5. Active NGO representatives in empowerment social and economic post-conflict .

Temporary subject study covering public local from various background behind social , economic , and gender. Involvement figure community and stakeholders policy aim get understanding comprehensive about How social policies and programs implemented at the level local .

Data collected through a number of techniques , namely :

1. Interview in-depth , done to informant key For dig views and experiences they about resilience social .
2. Discussion group focused (FGD), for get perspective collective from public about challenge social and mechanisms support community .
3. Observation participatory , where researchers involved direct in activity public use understand interaction social and practical culture daily .
4. Questionnaire limited , used For obtain additional data related perception public to

effectiveness of social programs .

Data analysis was performed with approach analysis thematic as put forward by (Rozali 2022). The stages covering data transcription , coding , identification themes , categorization , and interpretation meaning . Data from interviews , FGDs, and observations synthesized For find patterns and relationships between influencing factors to resilience social society . Analysis This Then compared to with theories resilience social use strengthen validity findings .

For guard data validity , research use triangulation sources and methods , comparing results interviews , observations , and FGDs. The member check process was carried out with confirm return results findings to informants for interpretation researchers in accordance with reality on the ground (Udar n.d.). Whereas reliability guarded through use guidelines consistent interviews , documentation systematic , as well as recording detailed field (Pujiharti and Isnaini 2025). Approach This ensure that the data generated can trusted , consistent , and representative condition real post- Acehnese society peace .

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

North Aceh Regency is one of the areas in Aceh Province with Mother city Lhoksukon , which consists of from 27 sub-districts and 852 villages , with amount resident reached 627,543 people at the end of 2023. This region own history long Because become used location Samudera Islamic Kingdom Pasai — kingdom the first to implement Islamic system in the archipelago. After independence , the North Aceh region experienced a number of expansion , including birth Regency Bireuen (1999) and Lhokseumawe City (2001). Composition its population dominated by ethnic Acehnese with majority Muslim (99%), so facility worship dominated by mosques and meunasah . The community part big working in the sector agriculture , however Still face challenge high unemployment and poverty . Although own source Power natural abundant , such as natural gas and oil , wealth the Not yet fully impact on welfare public .

In governance government local , villages in North Aceh have role important in organization governance , development , and empowerment society . Structure his government consists of on village head as leadership executive , God Peut as institution legislative village , and Imum Meunasah that handles affairs religious function main village is serve society , maintaining order , develop potential economic and social , as well as preserve customs customs . North Aceh also has infrastructure adequate transportation complete , such as Malikussaleh Airport , Krueng Port Geukueh , and the path train fire that connects Lhokseumawe – Bireuen . With legacy history Sultanate Pasai , this area No only play a role in development economic and social , but also become center tour history of Islam in Aceh.

Condition poverty extreme in North Aceh Regency still become attention main government area . Based on results survey , there are a number of family in Gampong Geulumpang The living Eastern Torch without income still , with work odd jobs and dependents large family . Situation This reflect problem poverty structural that has been lasts a long time. In general , some sub-districts in North Aceh show level poverty significant extremes , with a total of 26 sub-districts having amount poor enough village high . Effort government in give access education through scholarship Still limited , where only part small society that can utilise help education Because constraint administration and fulfillment conditions . This is confirm that policy help social and educational Still need strengthened to be more appropriate targets and sustainability .

From the side infrastructure , North Aceh Regency continues make an effort increase service base like repair road , system irrigation , access to clean water , and sanitation worthy . Long road regency reaching 2,032.8 km with condition Excellent around 37.54% in 2023. Sector irrigation also becomes support important for agriculture with wide area 56,136 hectares of irrigation managed by the government central , provincial and district levels . In addition that , clean water and sanitation services show trend positive with improvement access up to 92.47% of homes ladder clean water users and 77.95% of homes stay sanitation by 2023. However , the challenges Still There is in provision House worthy inhabited , where some of big poor families still living in a house that is not fulfil standard health and comfort . Although Thus , the government Keep going make an effort pressing number poverty through development infrastructure foundation and empowerment public based potential local .



Source : Research Results 2025

Figure 1. Condition poverty extreme in North Aceh Regency

Condition poverty extreme in North Aceh Regency still complex , encompassing limitations access on clean water , sanitation , and housing worthy inhabited . Many poor families have not own drinking water sources proper , toilet , and environment adequate sanitation , so that impact on health and quality life society . Government through various sources of funds such as DAK, DAU, Village Funds , and Special Autonomy has make an effort build infrastructure base such as markets, houses Healthy simple , roads , bridges , dams , and facilities education as well as health in various villages , including in the sub-district Dewantara . However , the results survey show part big poor people have not fully feel its benefits — about 66.67% have not Once accept repair home , while part small new get help repair part building . Condition This reflect that although development physique increased , but impact direct to alleviation poverty Still limited . Countermeasures poverty in North Aceh requires synergy between government , society and other parties private sector so that development programs truly touch aspect base life the people , at the same time strengthen independence economy poor people in general sustainable .

1. Reduction Program Poverty Extreme

Tabel 1. Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) of North Aceh Regency, Aceh and National Year 2019 – 2023

Characteristics	Year				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
North Aceh Regency	8.63	8.56	8.31	7.08	7.07
Aceh Province	6.20	6.59	6.30	6.17	6.03
National	5.23	7.07	6.49	5.86	5.32

Source : 2025 North Aceh Regency RKPD

The labor force participation rate (TPAK) in North Aceh Regency exhibits dynamics that illustrate serious challenges in job creation. Although the open unemployment rate (TPT) decreased from 8.63% in 2019 to 7.07% in 2023, the labor force participation rate remains volatile with a downward trend, reaching 58.84% in 2023.

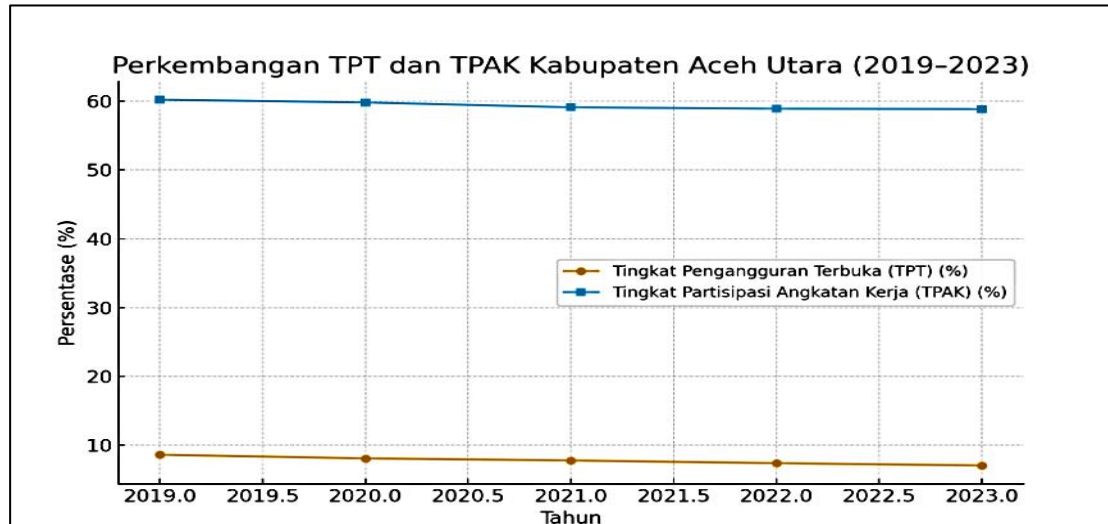


Figure 2. Development of TPT and TPAK of North Aceh Regency

This low figure indicates that many productive-age residents remain unabsorbed in the labor market, influenced by the limited number of job opportunities and limited training facilities at Vocational Training Centers (BLK). The existing BLK has only three civil servant instructors and limited training facilities, making it unable to meet the community's training needs in various skill areas. Field survey data in Dewantara District also shows that the majority of poor people work as casual laborers, farm laborers, or scrap collectors, with only a small proportion holding permanent jobs. This situation indicates the need for an integrated strategy between the government, the business world, and social institutions to expand employment opportunities and improve community skills.

Meanwhile, Aceh's economic growth showed a positive trend, increasing by 4.59% in the first quarter of 2025, primarily supported by the mining, transportation, and healthcare sectors. However, this growth was not enough to reduce the still-high unemployment and poverty rates in North Aceh, which were recorded at 16.11% in 2024. Dependence on the agriculture, fisheries, and trade sectors remains dominant, while private investment and entrepreneurship are relatively low. In Dewantara District, the economic potential is actually significant, supported by industrialization and corporate social responsibility programs such as PT Pupuk Iskandar Muda (PIM), which helps empower the community's economy by providing business booths and training for young entrepreneurs. However, equitable distribution of development outcomes remains a challenge, particularly in growing a village-based economy and strengthening the economic capacity of the poor to prevent them from remaining trapped in extreme poverty.

Help social sources from the APBN has role important in effort government For reduce poverty and improve welfare community . Programs such as PKH, BLT, KIS, and KIP are

designed For give protection social for poor people so they can fulfil need base like food , education , and health . In addition that , help social also functions For reduce gap social , improving productivity , as well as push participation public in development . Through various mechanism distribution of aid funds distributed from government center to government area until to level village to be precise targets . However , the effectiveness of this program Still often hampered by problems administration and limitations of valid recipient data , so that a number of extreme poverty Not yet fully covered by the aid program social the .

Besides help social , the government also distributes various scholarship programs education For increase access education for poor communities . Programs such as *Smart Indonesia Program (PIP)* , *Aceh Government Poor Path Scholarship* , and *Aceh Carong Scholarship* become form real commitment government in increase quality source Power humans in the area . In North Aceh Regency , including Subdistrict Dewantara , distribution scholarship done through service education , section welfare people (Kesra) , to corporate CSR such as PT Pupuk Iskandar Muda and PT Pema Global Energi . Although this program give opportunity big for student not enough capable , its realization Still face obstacles , such as lack of document population and address remain in the extreme poor . As a result , some public No can access scholarship said . Therefore that , it is needed coordination cross institutions and more data collection accurate so that the aid program education truly appropriate targets and sustainability .

Based on education and health data North Aceh Regency in 2019–2023, it can be seen existence progress but also challenges that still exist need overcome . In the sector education , numbers participation school (APS) and numbers participation pure (APM) experienced improvement , although number separated schools at the junior high school/Islamic junior high school level are still fluctuating and sufficient high in 2023 at 2.72 % . Average length of schooling The people of North Aceh are also still below the provincial average , namely 8.73 years , indicating that that part resident Not yet finish education until level medium . Meanwhile in the field of health , indicators number death infants (IMR) and numbers death mother (AKI) shows challenge big with improvement cases in 2023. Factors the cause among others the lack of nutrition Mother pregnant , anemia, and complications moment labor like bleeding and preeclampsia . Although Thus , efforts government For strengthen service health base like integrated health posts , community health centers , and immunization programs still walking , even though coverage immunization Still classified as low only 26.2% in 2023 .

Besides that , quality health society is also influenced by conditions nutrition and behavior life healthy . The stunting rate in North Aceh shows trend decline significant from 6.1% in 2023 to 4% in 2024 , indicating success of the intervention program nutrition and empowerment

community . Nutrition program had also been reach all over toddlers in need maintenance with 100% coverage . However , it is still there is challenge in increase awareness public to behavior life clean and healthy (PHBS), even though the percentage increase up to 61.2% in 2023. The government North Aceh Regency shows commitment strong in increase welfare public through policy development , strengthening service public , as well as implementation principle transparency and accountability . Various priority programs like alleviation poverty , development infrastructure basic , implementation Islamic law and movements life healthy (Germas) to become proof real sincerity government area in increase quality life public in a way sustainable .

. Implementation guarantee social in Aceh basically is form not quite enough answer together between government , companies and society in ensure welfare power work . Guarantee program social like guarantee health , insurance accident work , guarantee day old , and guarantee death aim For give protection for worker from risk social and economic that can bother productivity . In context development of the Aceh region, implementation guarantee social also becomes part from the improvement strategy quality source Power human resources and protection power work . This is show that development the economy in Aceh is not only focused on aspects physical and infrastructure , but also pay attention to aspect welfare social . Government North Aceh Regency , for example , emphasizes the need strengthening system protection power Work as step For prevent vulnerability social , especially among public vulnerable informal workers to termination connection layoffs and minimal protection social .

However Thus , the implementation guarantee social in the region Still face a number of obstacles , okay from side regulations , budgets , and awareness community . Field data show that part big public workers in the informal sector have not yet registered in the guarantee program social Because lack of socialization , limitations administration , as well as low awareness will importance protection social . On the other hand , for government area , load high budget For financing of guarantee programs social often causes limitations in implementation of development programs others . As a result , many social and empowerment programs society that only walk part Because limitations allocation of funds. This impact on the slowness improvement welfare society , especially in context alleviation poverty extreme that still become challenge mainstay in several rural areas of North Aceh.

In more context extent , effectiveness of the guarantee program social and empowerment economy the community is very dependent on the sustainability of mentoring and coaching programs to groups business small medium enterprises (SMEs). Evaluation results program implementation in 2024 shows that around 70% of development programs in North Aceh only can walk part consequence existence efficiency budget and limitations mentoring technical in the field .

In fact , the MSME training and coaching program has potential big in create field Work new , improve Power competition product local , as well as move economy village . Therefore that , synergy between government region , institution finance and business world become very important For ensure that guarantee social and empowerment programs public can walk in a way sustainable , fair and providing impact real to decline number poverty as well as improvement welfare Acehnese people .

4. CONCLUSION

Implementation of the poverty alleviation program poverty in North Aceh Regency is still face various challenges that cause the result not optimal. The government area own source sufficient power big , but Not yet capable allocate budget in a way maximum for the reduction program poverty Because limited funds and priorities development others . Besides that , poor people still experience difficulty in access source Power important like education , health , and employment Work consequence low investment and lack of creation business new . Weak synergy inter -stakeholder also slows down effort alleviation sustainable poverty . With level poverty that still exists tall namely 16.86%, above the national and provincial average , the Government North Aceh Regency needs formulate a more strategic strategy effective through improvement allocation budget , expansion access to source power and reinforcement collaboration cross sector . Although has There is various programs such as Aceh Kaya , financing UMi , and People's Business Credit (KUR), the results evaluation show that these programs Not yet capable lower number poverty extreme in a way significant in the North Aceh region.

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