Ecological Political Commitments

Measuring The Ecological Leadership Visions of District Head In Bangka Belitung Region

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Abstract: Bangka Belitung is an area rich in natural resources, especially tin. The tin mining process has also continued for hundreds of years, leaving massive environmental damage in the region. Therefore, a leader is required to be able to guarantee political and legal commitments as a regional head. This paper studies about the vision of ecological leadership of regional heads in the Bangka Belitung Islands. The study used in this paper is a qualitative study using three data collection techniques, namely observation, interviews, and documentation. This study tries to reveal about the vision of ecological leadership which is one of the important prerequisites in guarding the ecological commitment of a regional head. This study analyzed the RPJMD documents and so on. Of course, the concept in question does not merely fulfill the normative aspect, but also emphasizes the substantial aspect in order to measure the relationship between the vision of regional head leadership with the political mind that works behind the policy politics of a regional head. Thus, it can be said that the fate of a region also depends on the context of its leadership through the political basis of its policies which are more visionary towards ecological values.

1 INTRODUCTION

Bangka Belitung Islands Province is one of the regions that has abundant natural resource potential. In addition to the plantation sector, various important commodities support the economy of the local community, there are also various extractive industry potentials that continue to be exploited until now. The context of tin natural resource wealth is among tin commodities (Sujitno, 2015). However, based on various historiographical records, the Bangka Belitung Islands is one of the areas that are included as the most trusted tin crossing area in the world, especially in the Southeast Asian region (Ibrahim, 2013). In addition, there are various other associated mineral substances which are also of high economic value, which are spread almost in most of the former tin mining areas.

As an archipelago, Bangka Belitung Islands Province has 7 city districts. In all 7 districts of the city, various tin mining activities are still ongoing, both on land (including in river waters) and at sea. It is interesting then to examine the extent to which the ecological context of the environment has been conceived and manifested in various regional development programs, particularly those contained in the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD) document for a period of 5 years in accordance with the duration of time serving a regional head and deputy regional head.

There are various kinds of ideas, ideas and programs that continue to be promoted by local governments in order to strengthen the process of regional development transformation, particularly in the local economy. Tourism is one alternative sector that is being and continues to be pursued by almost all existing district / city local governments.

Of course, each region has a different political leadership context so that it also influences the ideas of public policy carried out by each politician. Leadership is often supposed to be an important driver of sustainable development, so that this role could be played well for ecological threatment (Evans, LS, and CC Hicks., PJ Cohen., P. Case., M.Predeaux, and David.J Mills, 2015). At least there are so many promises and political commitments that have been delivered to the public through various media campaigns as a political effort to convince the public at the time of the nominating campaign. This was explained later in various visions and missions of the regional heads. Each regional head has his own program and ideas as the superior of each region.

Therefore, this study tries to depart from the fundamental questions related to how and to what extent
later regional heads position, commit, and at the same time realize ecological political commitments in various contexts of their public policies on various regional development planning documents and agendas?

This paper studies two districts, namely Bangka Induk Regency and Belitung Regency. These two regions are considered representative enough to explore the nature of the ecological commitment of regional heads, as well as in order to examine the extent to which the ecological commitments of policy makers in the local government policy landscape are specified in the RPJMD document.

2 THEORETICAL

As an archipelago, naturally the context of the availability of abundant natural resources has influenced the ecological conditions, both the context of the natural environment, social, cultural, tourism, economic and local politics. At the very least, in recent years exploitative and destructive exploitation practices of the tin industry have led to serious problems with the ecological fate of the Bangka Belitung Islands Province, especially in tourism sector (Ibrahim, et al., (2018; 2019); Darwance, rendy., (2018). Rendy, (2017). Until now, various development efforts have been carried out and accelerated in order to accelerate the process of transitioning the local economy, from sectors that rely heavily on extractive industries to non-extractive sectors that have opportunities for sustainable regional development and development.

3 METHOD

This research study was designed with a explorative qualitative approach model. This paper will focus its basic ideas related to the reality of local government commitments and policies relating to aspects of preservation and concern for ecological fate above the local, by doing a portrait of two districts namely Bangka Induk and Belitung which are considered representative to see the pattern of ecological leadership. Data collection techniques in this study are more focused on reviewing regional development plan documents that are inherent in the RPJMD document.

4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1. General description of the region

The design and management of ecological-based policies in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province environment has indeed become a moral impetus that continues to be encouraged by many parties, especially the public public together with NGOs and CSO groups who are so concerned in fighting for the public interest through ecological care spaces. Of course this is a challenge as well as a separate issue for the process of regional development and development. Therefore, this study wants to carry out a study of mapping and identification related to various problems faced by the community in the environment into a study that helps program programs.

The study in this section will try to map and study the RPJMD documents in order to examine how and to what extent the ecological political commitments of the regional heads are contained in the RPJMD document, and their relevance to the vision and mission and work programs of regional heads.

The location of this study is in the scope of Bangka Induk Regency and Belitung Regency. These two regions are considered representative enough to read the reality of the ecological political commitment of the regional head. At least these two regions are regions with an abundance of natural resources which are very numerous and varied, both the potential of extractive natural resources and the beauty of the potential of natural tourism resources. Therefore, it is important and interesting to see the relationship and the relevance of various documents that become one of the tools to measure the degree of ecological political commitment of regional heads. The study will start from mapping related to vision and mission, as well as regional development programs and agendas that have been exposed in regional development planning documents (RPJMD).

4.2. Vision, Mission, Commitments and Programs

The context of the vision and mission and leadership program of the regional head basically already exists in the regional planning and development documents, especially those that intersect with the context of organizing tourism activities in each regency / city in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province, particularly in the Bangka Induk Regency, and Regency Belitung. Even so, the context of incorporating a vision of mission based on ecological importance is not yet explicitly and specifically explained in the narrative planning document that has been determined by each of the two districts. This also certainly has implications for the context of policy implementation which will certainly be more likely to be insensitive to various efforts for a more sustainable ecological interest. This can be seen from the results of the review of documents that have been carried out so far that still position the context of ecological importance in a limited way and are also not integrated with various development projects that are being carried out by their respective local governments. The table below explains some of the narrative portraits contained in the RPJMD document for each district.
Based on the above table, and also based on the substance contained in the regional development planning document, it can be seen that there is already a commitment related to the fate of the environment, for example in the context of Belitung Regency. Even so, the explanation is still explicit and limited. This is also evident from the context of the vision that none of the districts have special attention to the commitment to strengthen ecological quality in the scope of their respective regions. This certainly becomes urgent given the context of the two regencies having their respective programs which are concerned with the efforts of the regions that are transforming from the mining areas to become tourist areas. Despite the fact, up to now the context of tin mining still occurs on a massive scale, especially in Bangka Regency, and to a limited extent it is still ongoing in Belitung Regency.

The vision and mission context above is also in fact not followed by the development program of various development agendas that are oriented to the rescue program and the strengthening of ecological aspects. For the Belitung context, for example, even though it has been explicitly mentioned, it is still limited to further development programs that intersect with ecological aspects. So far, based on the results of the study of the Belitung Regional Government program, a conservation area declaration program is being carried out contained in the Conservation Zoning Development and Determination Plan document. All of these agendas are in the framework of preparing development plans and strengthening the position of Belitung as a Water Park. In this regard, as of this writing, the program for compiling documents and legalizing these documents is still being carried out.

Meanwhile, for the context of Bangka, it is precisely the vision and mission of tourism development being the main focus in the development and development of strategic agendas in the regions. The problem is then seen from the lack of connectivity between tourism programs and programs that have an ecological spirit. This can also be seen from the socio-economic reality in the Bangka area, which is still ongoing a variety of mining activities, both large and small scale, both legal and illegal. There is an impression that oversimplifies the problem that the tourism context can be integrated with the context of tin mining in the region. In fact, in fact, it is so easy to find that tin mining activities, both on land and at sea, have always been a burden and disrupting various tourism interests at the local level.

### 2.2. Synergy and Connectivity Between the Program and Ecological Commitments

Based on the review of the planning documents for regional development, particularly with regard to programs and commitment to ecological local government there is an effort initiated by the local government potentially to the development aspects of ecological, walaupun yet there is no policy integrative since the beginning deliberately designed to strengthen the quality and ecological capacity. Although related to the commitment to develop ecological and parental contexts in local government programs, there have been varied appearances in regional planning and development documents (Ibrahim, et al., 2019). One of the programs in question is the existence of a development program for ecotourism potential in several regions in each district. Related to this explained in the table below:

| Regency       | Ecological Based Program | Tourism Based Program |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bangka        | 4                        | 6                     |
| Bangka Selatan| 4                        | 2                     |
| Bangka Tengah | 6                        | 3                     |
| Bangka Selatan| 3                        | 3                     |
| Bangka Barat  | 7                        | 3                     |
| Pangkal Pinang| 8                        | 1                     |
| Belitung      | 4                        | 5                     |
| Belitung Timur| 6                        | 3                     |

If you look at the number of programs and agendas contained in the above table, it is seen that in Bangka Regency and Belitung Regency both have placed tourism as one of the important economic sectors in the regional development space. More specifically, in Bangka Regency, the context of tourism development has been determined or raised, but when compared to the context of the Belitung government, naturally the extractive economic aspects have been limited so that they do not touch too much on regional tourism activities.

Furthermore, if referring to the table above, of course if there is an integration of the program between the commitment of ecological interest-based development with the development of the tourism sector which is also sensitive to the development of ecological quality, and coupled with the stages of implementing a policy program that mainstreams ecological interests as the main context, of course in terms of quantity, the above amounts are
combined, so that is sufficiently significant. Likewise with the quality context, of course there must be synergy and connectivity between the government and stakeholders to work together in strengthening the ecological aspects of the Bangka Belitung Islands Province.

In addition, the ecological commitments listed in regional planning and development documents are relatively the same and not even more compared to some other regencies in Bangka Belitung, except South Bangka whose data shows the least number of tourism programs compared to other regencies and cities.

### 2.3. Ecological Political Commitments

Based on the regional planning and development documents in the two districts which were the objects of this study, certainly at least a key aspect that will be a guideline and trajectory in the development and development of various strategic programs that are available at the local level. The various strategic programs in question must of course be directed to have an impact on efforts to improve and strengthen the quality, as well as local ecological capacity, especially those concerned with environmental issues in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province. Of course, all documents that discuss topics related to the vision, mission and various ideas, agendas, and work programs of local governments have major consequences, both directly and indirectly on the fate of the region.

Belitung Regency and Bangka Regency so far have placed tourism as one of the strategic sectors as a supporting economy for the local community after mining. Then, what becomes an opportunity and challenge now is how and to what extent these various regional planning and development programs can go hand in hand together in synergy to strengthen capacity as well as ecological quality at the local level.

If the Bangka Regency has established a tourism program as one of the spearheads of an alternative economy at the local post-tin level, of course it must be strengthened with a variety of public policy programs that are pro to environmental conservation aspects with its natural ecosystems that can sustain environmental sustainability for the better. Therefore, serious attention needs to be given to begin controlling various mining activities, both on land and at sea that have a great potential to have an impact on the existence of objects and tourist attractions based on sustainability and the natural values of the environment itself. As such, it certainly needs a visionary leadership model that has a strong commitment to ecological aspects.

Meanwhile, for the Belitung context which also establishes tourism as one of the main development areas of the region, of course it must continue to be strengthened with a variety of rare policies as an effort to synergize the presence of tourism as one of the spearheads in presenting a multiplier effect not only in the economic context as so far, take place, but also able to give social development.

Based on the results of the study above, it can be explained that some local government programs that have direct contact with ecological aspects do not have to be trapped in the business or economic dimension alone, but there must be policies that give special attention to the interests of a more sustainable and sustainable environment. The findings of this study show how weak and inconsistent local government attention is to environmental sustainability aspects, both natural and specifically designed to strengthen the role, function and attractiveness of the environment.

Therefore, however, the transition and change from regime to regime can be consistent to make ecological aspects an important basis in every development and implementation of public policies, especially those that have the potential to burden ecological interests, both large and small scale. The hope is certainly in order to encourage the creation of a model of political leadership that continues to have a very high spirit and sensitivity to ecological political commitment. Therefore, various blood government strategic programs in the two districts must be able to place the ecological context as an important basis for developing public policies. Thus, the ecological political leadership model can continue to be used as a shared vision and mission in a variety of regimes that are constantly changing.

The following is an overview of the policy models and ecological political commitments in the two intended areas:

![Figure 1. Scheme of Relation between Vision, Mission, Policy, and Programme](Image)

Based on the above description, it can be explained that in the vision and mission of the government programs in the two districts studied, it appears that ecological programs already exist, although still in a small and limited scope. In addition, it seems that there is a public policy context in the field of economic development which actually positions ecological interests separately, or
individually so that there is no connectivity between one program and ecological aspects. Therefore, it is necessary the initiative and moral sensitivity of regional heads to mainstream ecological interests in various social, political and economic policy spaces to be taken.

5 CONCLUSION

This research study conducted a critical review relating to the ecological political commitments of local governments, especially in an effort to explore the political context of policies that intersect with the fate of the ecological environment. In the end, this study came to some interesting conclusions about the ecological commitment of regional heads in two districts in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province.

First, the results of this study show that there are still minimal and limited ecological visions of regional heads who narrate ecological vision as an important agenda in regional planning, development and development space. In the Central and West Bangka, the department has included explicitly about the mission of ecological-based regional development. At least there is an inherited ecological spirit in the RPJMD document.

Second, the lack of strong context of synergy or connectivity between development spaces programmed by local governments that should be in line with ecological interests, for example there are still development policies in the economic and tourism sectors that have not been so integrated with policy contexts that support environmental aspects. This is certainly a challenge, as well as a problem because all the mobility of regional development will be a burden to the ecological fate in the region.

Third, in the two regions that were the objects of this study, there was already a narrative commitment of each local government mentioned in the RPJMD document, however, the context has not yet received attention so seriously and deeply because it was not conceptually strong and clear in the context of vision and mission respective regional governments, including the context of an adequate work program, have not yet been found to explain the design of implementation in the strategic work programs of local governments.

In the end, this study came to the simple conclusion that the context of regional development planning and design in the two districts which became the focus of this research study showed that it had not demonstrated adequate ecological political commitment. This certainly needs to be a joint concern so that regional development spaces can really be supported by strong ecological political commitment and continued by various regulatory regimes at the local level, especially how between various development programs can harmonize between the contexts of the vision and mission of the heads regions with clearly documented and measurable public policy ideas and work programs, including narrative aspects that are exposed in the RPJMD document as guidelines in implementing various regional development policy programs.

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