Dualism in Participatory Spatial Planning:

Experience from Community-based Neighborhood Development Program in Kaligawe Village, Indonesia

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Introduction

This paper is:

- More practical-based rather than research-based
- More focused on planning process
- Based on observation during the planning process
- Aimed to:
  - to explore some issues from practical perspective about participatory planning process in community level
  - to learn from the real case about what could happen in participatory planning process
Profile of Study Area

- Located in Klaten Regency, Central Java Province, Indonesia
- One of 255 recipients of Community-based Neighborhood Development Program from Ministry of Public Works in 2010
- The first village (pilot project) receiving this program in Klaten Regency in 2010.
- Consist of 9 RW’s and 26 RT’s
- Most of people work as farm workers
Community-based Neighborhood Development Program

- The last stage of National Community Empowerment Program from the government.
- Provided to villages which have good achievement in community participatory and local institution management (through selection process).
- It aims to improve community’s capacity to develop themselves through a spatial plan.
Participatory Planning Cycle

Preparation (workshop, socialization)

Organizing the community
- Forming the planning team (TIPP)
- Forming the working groups (Pokja)
- Recruiting planning expert (TAPP)

Critical reflection, Planning review, and self-mapping

Visioning

Planning

Formulating spatial plan

Deciding the prioritized area

Spatial plan For prioritized area

Construction

Marketing
- Channeling, partnership

Source: Guideline for Community-based Neighborhood Development Program, 2011
Planning team (TIPP) & volunteers
Self-supporting Community Group (KSM)
Self-supporting Community Body (BKM)
Planning Expert (TAPP)
Head of village

Source: Guideline for Community-based Neighborhood Development Program, 2011
Planning Process

Photos source: Urbanist Group’s documentation, 2010
Dualism 1: Defining Community

It is difficult to define “community”, whether it is all people, or it is representative of people.

People
- Information are collected from basis level.
- Target of the program is people
- In fact, most of people did not understand about the process.

Representative of people
- Planning Team is responsible for planning formulation.
- Discussion, decision making, and plan formulating were mostly done by Planning Team (TIPP).
Dualism 2: Relationship between Community and Expert

Who should be listened, people or an expert? What if an expert has different opinion from what people have?

**Listening to people**
- Community is considered as the most knowledgeable about their area.
- Limit of people’s knowledge.
- Considering people aspiration.

**Listening to expert**
- Technical knowledge, expert judgment.
- Expert should not be dominating.
- Need for accelerating the process
Dualism 3: Selecting Prioritized Area

Which area should be prioritized?

**Our area**
- Limited financial for development.
- Direct and indirect beneficiaries.
- Sense of belonging

**“Our” area**
- Members of planning team are representatives of each RW/RT
- Desire to make “their” own area better.

*NIMBY (Not in my back yard)*
## Dualism 4: Planning for Today’s needs, or Future Vision?

What should be done with the fund?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Today’s need</th>
<th>Future vision (long term)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limited resource (financial resource).</td>
<td>Ideal, longer term but uncertainty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pragmatic but certainty.</td>
<td>Neighborhood Development → social transformation to become independent community, have capacity to formulate development plan and program, and find the fund to finance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possibility to be more dependent on external aid is getting bigger.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of development integration</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dualism 5: Orientation of Program

Was it an Empowerment, or a Project?

**Empowerment**
- Empowerment is a long and continuous process.
- Empowerment emphasizes the process, give a wide space for people to learn, collaborate, and being empowered.
- Outcome oriented

**Project Scheme**
- Government program has the limit of time and budget.
- Requirement for physical development.
- Physical development as the requirement
- Output oriented

More critical? Compare to Arnstein’s Ladder of Participation.
Lesson learned

- All dualistic situation are connected each other;
- Participatory planning decision could be bias: community decision, planning team decision, or planner opinion;
- A need to think again about the role of planner in practical context;
- A need for community empowerment program which emphasize more process (outcome) rather than output;
- A need for a more flexible community development program scheme;
Thank you