

Article

Implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City

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Abstract: Waste management in Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency continues to face problems related to littering, low public awareness, post-flood waste accumulation, drainage blockages, and environmental pollution. This study aimed to analyze the implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City and to identify the factors influencing its implementation. A descriptive qualitative approach was employed. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation from 12 informants selected using snowball sampling. The data were analyzed through data reduction, data presentation, verification, and conclusion drawing. The findings indicate that the regulation has been implemented fairly well, although several obstacles remain. Supporting factors include the active role of the Environmental Agency and sanitation officers, environmental benefits in the form of a cleaner environment, and economic benefits generated through waste banks, composting, and organic waste processing. Inhibiting factors include persistent littering habits, low public awareness of environmental impacts, limited understanding and commitment among some implementers, insufficient budget support, and inadequate waste-management facilities and infrastructure. The study recommends more intensive public education and socialization, stronger guidance for implementing officers, improved waste-management facilities, and increased community participation so that waste management in Barabai City can be implemented more effectively and sustainably.

Keywords: Waste Management, Policy Implementation, Regional Regulation, Environmental Governance, Barabai City

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1. Introduction

Environmental issues, particularly waste management, remain a continuing concern in many regions of Indonesia. Population growth, economic activity, and changing consumption patterns increase the volume and diversity of waste generated by communities. When waste is not managed properly, it can contribute to environmental pollution, blocked drainage channels, flooding, unpleasant odors, declining urban aesthetics, and public-health risks. Effective waste management therefore requires coordinated government services, adequate facilities, responsible behavior by businesses, and active community participation.

Indonesia's environmental policy places responsibility for environmental protection on both the government and the public. Law Number 32 of 2009 on Environmental Protection and Management states that every person is obliged to preserve environmental functions and to prevent and control environmental pollution and damage [1]. This obligation provides a national legal basis for strengthening environmental awareness and responsible waste-management behavior.

Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency, located in South Kalimantan Province, faces similar waste-management challenges. To provide a local legal framework, the regency government enacted Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management [2]. The regulation establishes responsibilities for the local government in providing waste-management facilities and services and requires the community to dispose of waste in designated locations. It also provides a legal basis for sanctions against violations in accordance with applicable provisions.

Despite the existence of this regulation, waste management in Barabai City has not been fully optimal. Post-flood conditions have increased the amount of waste found on roads, in drainage channels, in residential areas, and around traditional markets such as Murakata Market. Delays in collection can cause waste accumulation, unpleasant odors, reduced environmental quality, and drainage blockages that may increase the risk of subsequent flooding. Low public awareness and inconsistent compliance by residents and business actors further complicate implementation.

Policy implementation is not determined solely by the existence of formal regulations. It is also influenced by the clarity of policy objectives, the behavior and commitment of implementers, available resources, institutional arrangements, stakeholder interests, and the social context in which a policy is implemented [3], [4]. These factors are especially relevant in waste management because implementation depends on continuous interaction between government agencies, sanitation personnel, communities, and other local actors.

Public-policy studies also emphasize that successful implementation requires consistency between policy design, implementing institutions, resources, public services, and the responses of target groups [5], [6]. Policy analysis is therefore important for identifying gaps between regulatory objectives and actual conditions in the field [7], [8]. In the context of Barabai City, such analysis is needed to understand why established waste-management rules have not yet produced fully consistent behavioral and service outcomes.

Previous studies on the effectiveness and implementation of municipal waste-management policies in Manado and Baubau demonstrate the relevance of examining waste management as a public-policy implementation issue [9], [10]. However, the specific implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 in Barabai City requires contextual analysis because local institutional capacity, public behavior, environmental conditions, and resource availability may differ from those in other cities.

Based on these conditions, this study aims to analyze the implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City and to identify the supporting and inhibiting factors that influence implementation. The findings are expected to provide an empirical basis for improving local waste-management services, strengthening policy implementation, increasing public participation, and supporting a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable urban environment.

2. Materials and Methods

This study employed a descriptive qualitative approach to obtain an in-depth understanding of the implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City. A qualitative approach was considered appropriate because the study sought to describe implementation processes, obstacles, and field conditions from the perspectives of policy implementers and community members. The research design was also consistent with approaches commonly used in administrative and social research [11], [12].

The study used primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through direct interaction with informants, while secondary data were obtained from regulations, official documents, books, scientific literature, and other materials relevant to the research topic. Informants were selected using snowball sampling, beginning with initial informants and expanding through recommendations until the information was

considered sufficient. A total of 12 informants participated in the study. This approach was used to obtain information from actors who had relevant knowledge or experience with waste-management implementation [13], [14].

Data were collected through observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation. Observation was used to examine waste-management conditions and service implementation directly in the field. Interviews were used to explore the perspectives of implementers and community members regarding implementation, obstacles, compliance, and supporting factors. Documentation was used to complement the findings with policy documents, records, photographs, and other relevant evidence. The use of multiple data-collection techniques is consistent with qualitative research procedures that emphasize the complementary role of field evidence [15].

Data analysis was conducted through data reduction, data grouping and classification, data presentation, verification, and conclusion drawing. To strengthen data credibility, the study used prolonged observation, increased persistence, source and technique triangulation, negative-case analysis, and member checking. These procedures were applied to compare information from different sources and techniques and to ensure that the interpretations reflected actual field conditions [16].

3. Results

The findings show that the implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City can be assessed through two main dimensions adopted in the study: the content of policy and the context of implementation. Overall, implementation has been fairly good, but several conditions continue to prevent the policy from operating optimally.

In the content-of-policy dimension, the interests affected by the regulation include those of the local government, the Environmental Agency, sanitation officers, business actors, and the community. Each actor has an interest in achieving cleaner and more effective waste management. However, community participation remains uneven. The policy provides environmental and social benefits by supporting a cleaner, healthier, and more comfortable environment. It also creates opportunities for economic benefits through waste banks, composting, and other forms of waste utilization.

The policy also seeks to produce behavioral change by encouraging residents to stop littering, use designated waste-disposal locations, and participate in waste reduction and management. These expected changes have not yet been fully achieved because some residents continue to dispose of waste improperly. The persistence of this behavior indicates that regulatory provisions alone are insufficient without continuous education, supervision, and accessible supporting facilities.

With regard to decision making, the local government has exercised its authority through the enactment of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 [2]. The regulation provides a clear local legal basis for waste-management activities. The Environmental Agency and sanitation officers serve as the principal implementing actors and have carried out collection and management duties according to their responsibilities. Nevertheless, implementation is constrained by limitations in human resources, budget, facilities, and infrastructure.

In the context-of-implementation dimension, cooperation exists among the local government, the Environmental Agency, sanitation personnel, and the community. However, the effectiveness of this cooperation is influenced by the relatively low level of public participation. Institutional support is available through the existence of regulations and government agencies responsible for waste management, but institutional support must be accompanied by consistent public compliance and adequate operational resources.

The level of compliance and the response of implementers also affect policy outcomes. Sanitation officers generally perform their duties according to established responsibilities, but some implementers still have limited understanding of the substance of the policy. At the community level, continued littering and low awareness of environmental consequences indicate that compliance with waste-management rules remains

insufficient. This gap between formal rules and actual behavior helps explain why policy implementation has not yet achieved optimal results.

The study identified several supporting factors. First, the Environmental Agency and sanitation officers play an active role in delivering waste-management services. Second, proper waste management provides direct environmental benefits in the form of cleaner and healthier surroundings. Third, waste-management activities can generate economic value through waste banks, compost houses, and organic-waste processing, including maggot cultivation. These benefits can strengthen the motivation of government and community actors to maintain and expand waste-management programs.

The inhibiting factors are more closely related to community behavior, implementer capacity, and resource limitations. The habit of littering remains a significant obstacle, while low public awareness and limited understanding of environmental damage reduce compliance with the regulation. Some implementers have not fully understood or consistently committed to the content of the waste-management policy. In addition, limited budgets, waste-collection facilities, and supporting infrastructure restrict the government's capacity to provide optimal services.

4. Discussion

Overall, the findings indicate that implementation of the regional regulation is supported by an adequate legal framework and active sanitation services, but its effectiveness depends on stronger coordination between regulatory enforcement, public education, institutional commitment, resource provision, and community participation. This interpretation is consistent with public-policy perspectives that view implementation as an interaction between policy objectives, resources, implementing institutions, and target-group responses [3], [4], [5], [6].

5. Conclusion

Based on the findings, the implementation of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency Regulation Number 10 of 2013 on Waste Management in Barabai City has been fairly good but has not yet reached an optimal level. In terms of policy content, the regulation provides environmental, social, and economic benefits and has begun to encourage improvements in waste-management practices. However, the expected behavioral changes have not been fully achieved because littering remains common and community awareness is still limited. From the implementation-context perspective, the local government and the Environmental Agency have undertaken socialization, service delivery, and institutional coordination, but the effectiveness of implementation is constrained by limited understanding and commitment among some implementers, inadequate budget and facilities, and low public compliance. Supporting factors include the active role of the Environmental Agency and sanitation officers, environmental benefits, and economic opportunities from waste banks, composting, and organic-waste processing. Inhibiting factors include persistent littering habits, low environmental awareness, insufficient implementer capacity, budget limitations, and inadequate supporting infrastructure.

It is recommended that the Environmental Agency of Hulu Sungai Tengah Regency increase the frequency and quality of public socialization and environmental education related to the provisions of the regional regulation. The agency should also strengthen guidance for sanitation personnel, improve temporary waste-storage sites and collection fleets, and advocate for adequate budget support. The Barabai Subdistrict Government should intensify supervision, coordination, community-service activities, and collaboration with neighborhood associations (RT/RW), schools, and community organizations. Community members are expected to dispose of waste in designated places, maintain environmental cleanliness, support government waste-management programs, and participate in waste reduction, sorting, recycling, and utilization activities. These measures are necessary to improve compliance and create a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable environment in Barabai City.

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