

## Regional Goods Management in Supporting Activity Planning at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin District

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### ABSTRACT

**Background.** The existence of assets at this time gave birth to a paradox in terms of efforts to increase income (PAD). As a result, the great potential that lies ahead is not optimally explored. Instead they found any source of PAD results to be uncertain.

**Purpose.** Assets should be very large areas that are better managed so as to produce optimal profits. It would be nice if the Regional Head from the Regent, Mayor, to the Governor when he is appointed immediately recognizes and understands the exact condition of the assets and then reports back to the community periodically.

**Method.** In this study, researchers used a qualitative descriptive approach. Taking the location which is located in Merangin Regency, Jambi Province with a total sample of 18 people. In carrying out the research conducted using several data collection techniques including interviews, observation, questionnaires.

**Results.** Problems related to the management of goods are also urgent but can still be handled ideally, including at the Secretariat General of the Merangin District Section. Based on the researchers' observations, there are several fundamental problems that have caused the management of goods to not operate effectively and can be used as indicators to support planning activities at the Regional Secretariat Section of Merangin Regency. Goods Management in Support of the General Plan of Activities in Merangin Regency Regional Assets and are still not optimal.

**Conclusion.** Efforts made to overcome obstacles in the Management of Goods in support of activity planning in the Regional Secretariat Section are to improve the technical capabilities of existing personnel management goods, maximize the management of goods to and encourage the process of internal control mechanisms in the General Section to maximize the management of regional property in supporting activities planning.

### KEYWORDS

Management, Regional Goods, Regional Secretariat

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### INTRODUCTION

The aim of the State of Indonesia to be established as stated in the fourth paragraph of the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution is to protect the entire Indonesian nation and all of Indonesia's bloodshed and to promote public welfare and to educate the nation's life (Kourouxous & Bauer, 2019). To achieve this goal, the Indonesian government organizes various national development programs in a sustainable, well-planned and well-directed manner. The State Apparatus has a very decisive role in supporting the successful implementation of government and

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development tasks, through increasing the capacity of human resources which are expected to realize the expectations of the community regarding the existence of services that are fair, neutral, professional, efficient and effective, productive, transparent which are free from elements of corruption (He dkk., 2019). Collusion and Nepotism (KKN) (V'kovski dkk., 2019), based on these conditions, the utilization of the state apparatus requires fundamental changes in the life of the nation and state to realize the goals of the State mandated at the opening of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia in the 4th paragraph, namely:

1. Protect the entire Indonesian nation and all of Indonesia's bloodshed
2. Promote general welfare
3. Educating the life of the nation
4. Participate in carrying out world order based on freedom, eternal peace and social justice.

Implementation of Regional Autonomy, realized through the exercise of authority and responsibility for administering government in accordance with the interests of the community (Wang dkk., 2021). For this reason, the purpose of regional autonomy is not only to devolve governmental authority from the center to the regions, but more importantly to make the process of governance in the autonomous region take place according to the characteristics of the region concerned without conflicting with the rule of law above it.

One of the regional government authorities is in the management of regional finances and assets (Groc & Choquet, 2020). The existence and management of local government-owned assets is in apprehensive condition (Schwartz & Graham, 2020). Many regional officials and apparatus do not care and have not managed these assets effectively, efficiently and profitably (Mukhibad dkk., 2022). As a result, not a few regional assets change hands improperly or are managed by other parties with very small rents. The lack of professionalization of regional asset management creates serious problems in the future (Taufik dkk., 2023). The existence of regional assets at this time gave birth to a paradox in terms of efforts to increase local revenue (PAD) (Moen dkk., 2019). As a result, the great potential that is already in front of our eyes is not optimally exploited. Instead, they are looking for sources of PAD everywhere, the results of which are uncertain (O'Toole dkk., 2021). The enormous regional assets should be managed better so as to produce optimal benefits. It would be nice if regional heads, starting from regents, mayors, to governors, immediately know and understand the exact condition of regional assets and then report it to the people periodically.

Therefore, it is important to manage goods by evaluating in detail the current use and availability of regional goods with the same thing outside of regional assets. For example, the amount of rent, level of production, price of goods and other parameters (O'Cathain dkk., 2019). Also the importance of evaluating the comparison of income from assets or Return on Assets (ROA) (Mulizar dkk., 2022). From the results of the evaluation of the acceptance of each of these assets, decisive action and strategic steps can be taken in the future. Regional assets or goods are the economic potential owned by the region (Asman & Muchsin, 2021). Economic potential means that there are financial and economic benefits that can be obtained in the future, which can support the role and function of the local government as a provider of public services to the community.

Related to the issue of goods management, it is also something that is urgent but still cannot be handled ideally, including in the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency (Abdul Muthalib dkk., 2021). Based on the researchers' observations (Ardiansyah Rakhmadi, 2022), there are several fundamental problems that have caused the management of goods to not run effectively and can be used as an indicator to support activity planning in the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency. The reasons that the researchers put forward to support this initial allegation are:

1. There are still frequent double recordings of one item of goods which results in errors in the inventory of goods;
2. There are still frequent procurements of similar goods even though the old goods are still in good condition and adequate for use;
3. The system for recording goods has not yet been integrated which has resulted in the movement of goods by both users and other work units in other parts of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency (Kourouxous & Bauer, 2019). This condition causes the General Section as the center for goods management in the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency to be constrained in planning future activities;
4. Inadequate quality of human resources and supporting infrastructure for goods management.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, researchers used a qualitative descriptive approach. Taking the location which is located in Merangin Regency, Jambi Province with a total sample of 18 people (Bussières dkk., 2020). In carrying out the research conducted using several data collection techniques including interviews, observation, questionnaires.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### **The Effectiveness of Goods Management in Supporting Activity Planning in the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.**

In accordance with its main task of assisting the implementation of the regional administration of Merangin Regency, one of the main focuses of attention is the issue of regional goods. Regional goods or regional assets are very important because they are one of the physical evidences of the development process that has been and is ongoing in Merangin Regency.

The existence of assets accompanied by the accuracy and accuracy of recording is one of the parameters to show that the development process is properly implemented and controlled by the government (Aguirre, 2019). With regard to the handling of regional asset problems other than those that are routine in nature, it is indeed common to find problematic regional assets. However, the Regional Government of Merangin Regency through the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency always tries to target regional goods management every year by avoiding problems that will arise in the future (Lubit, 2019). The main problem related to regional goods is the emergence of problematic assets in Merangin Regency (Prescott & Rasmussen, 2020). For this reason, the annual work plan, including the management of goods, always emphasizes the existence of a work system that is neat and responsible for managing goods.

For the management of goods in the General Section of Merangin Regency, it is stated that asset management starts with recording goods or assets owned by the Regional Government of Merangin Regency (Agustanti & Astuti, 2022). Through the recording of goods or assets, the condition of the assets owned, legal status, utilization and problems encountered will be known. Based on these records, the method of handling goods or assets will be classified (Chouksey & Pandey, 2020). For the settlement of problematic assets, if there are any, it will be a separate priority because it is closely related to the wealth or inventory of the Regional Government of Merangin Regency as a whole.

The types of goods that are most often problematic are motorized vehicles and infrastructure supporting activities such as computers/laptops (Boute, 2020). The definition of problematic here, among others, because it is used by an unauthorized party, is not in accordance with its designation, is not in accordance with the agreement or because of a disputed legal status with another party.

Given these things usually, the management of goods becomes problematic because it takes a relatively long time, especially if the mediation route cannot be taken.

In the interest of managing problem assets, the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency usually includes it as a program of regular activities per year and adjusted to the strategic plan they have (Hansen, 2019). Bearing in mind that handling problematic goods or assets is actually a process that also requires money, time and involves other parties who have a relationship with these assets (Jagannathan & Delhi, 2019). Apart from that, according to him, it is also necessary to pay close attention that problematic assets can occur due to recording or administrative errors so that periodically cross-tests and analyzes are always carried out on asset reports from each Section in the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

The effectiveness of goods management to support activity planning is very dependent on the accountability mechanism of the parties who are given responsibility for using the goods in question ("Existence of Cointegration between the Public and Private Bank Index," 2021). This means that the management of goods requires good cooperation between each section at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency in fulfilling reporting procedures, condition of goods and maintenance.

Property management related to recording, condition and feasibility assessment as part of activity planning, is one of the important points of the implementation of Minister of Home Affairs Regulation Number 17 of 2007 concerning Technical Guidelines for Regional Property Management. Planning activities, starting from the availability of adequate data, both regarding the amount, position or location of goods as well as the capacity and quality they have.

For this reason, the management of goods is not only based on physical conditions, but also involves the readiness of regional goods, estimates of future needs and the calculation of depreciation in value (Stef & Zenou, 2021). In managing goods in support of activity plans, it tries to include these aspects with the aim that activity planning is maximized.

To analyze and explain the obstacles faced by the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency in managing goods to support activity planning.

The obstacles in the Implementation of Goods Management in Supporting Activity Planning at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency are that the obstacles faced in managing goods vary and really depend on the type of goods, the party using the goods and the location of the goods. Syafral, the main obstacle is tracing the origins of documents on the existence of regional goods. Very often documents to trace and determine the status of assets that are categorized as problematic cannot be found because they are not properly archived.

There are also obstacles in the management of goods caused when the purchase of goods is not followed by recording the addition of assets to the inventory data. Besides that, planning that is not effective and efficient usually results in the collection of data on goods as the initial management that is not optimal. If an inspection is then carried out, errors in recording will usually be found which will indirectly make certain assets categorized as problematic.

Goods management becomes very useful to cut procurement maintenance costs. Goods Management on the one hand does aim not to reduce or place regional goods according to their designation or contribute to PAD revenues, but if it drags on, besides causing inefficiencies, it will also undermine the budget for financing maintenance. If these problems are found, then usually, the elimination of regional goods when certain requirements are met will be more effective in maintaining the balance of the maintenance budget. In addition, it should also be noted that asset write-off is indeed possible if maintenance costs have exceeded the objective value of the goods.

Barriers to Goods Management in Supporting Activity Planning in the General Section are as follows:

There is still an uneven distribution of the ability of existing personnel to carry out methods of managing goods in accordance with existing technical guidelines.

Not maximal recording, sorting, reporting on the condition of goods and regional goods reporting techniques. This condition causes activity planning to be out of sync with the availability of regional goods.

There is no internal control process for regional goods management mechanisms in the General Section. For example, when checking the condition of motorized vehicles, it usually only depends on reports from users. Physical checks are rarely held due to limited personnel and the difficulty of synchronizing schedules.

Efforts were made to overcome obstacles to Goods Management in supporting activity planning at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

So far, in the management of goods to support activity planning in the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency, several things have been done, namely:

Determine the priority scale for handling goods management, especially at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

Setting targets for the management of goods including those with problems, especially at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

Conduct a comprehensive study for long-term policy making to improve goods management mechanisms.

Accelerating the management of goods at the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency by involving related parties in a sustainable manner.

In the implementation of the 4 (four) matters, obstacles were encountered as stated above. For the management of goods, the focus is on overcoming the obstacles encountered. For this reason, the efforts made are as follows:

Improving the technical skills of managing goods owned by employees in the General Section of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

Maximizing the goods management process to support activity planning, starting from matters of an administrative nature or physical testing and feasibility of regional goods.

Encouraging the existence of an internal control mechanism process in the management of regional goods, especially within the scope of the Regional Secretariat of Merangin Regency.

In addition, the General Section that he leads focuses on assets that still have high economic value and are very useful for supporting the operational implementation of government in Merangin Regency. This, in addition to referring to the priority scale, is also due to budget constraints. Bearing in mind that there are many other things that must also be taken care of while handling problem assets also requires a lot of money and time, his party made this decision.

In order to overcome obstacles in the management of goods, the process of registering regional goods will continue to be perfected. For this reason, coordination is needed with sections and even related SKPDs that use or utilize regional goods so that they always report on the progress of the condition of the goods they have.

In management it must be used as a reference for the procurement of goods in the future. So far, the management of goods is often ineffective, as a result, the whereabouts of many regional goods are unknown. So that in the future there will be no more problematic regional goods due to designations which are of an unimportant nature or only accommodate certain interests.



## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and analysis that the authors have done, it can be concluded that

Management of Goods in Support of Activity Plans in the General Section of Merangin Regency and Regional Assets is still not effective. This is due to the lack of maximum recording and valuation processes which results in regional goods belonging to the region becoming problematic.

Obstacles in the management of goods to support activity planning in the General Section of Merangin Regency, the uneven ability of personnel in managing goods, the process of managing goods has not been maximized and there is no internal control mechanism in the General Section in managing goods.

Efforts made to overcome obstacles in Goods Management in support of activity planning in the General Section of the Regency Regional Secretariat are to improve the technical capabilities of existing employee goods management, maximize the goods management process by and encourage an internal control mechanism process in the General Section to maximize regional property management in support of activity planning.

## AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Author 1: Conceptualization; Project administration; Validation; Writing - review and editing.

Author 2: Conceptualization; Data curation; In-vestigation.

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