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# Community-Based Empowerment: Semi-Systematic Literature Review (SSLR)

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#### ARTICLE INFO

#### **ABSTRACT**

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#### Keywords

Community empowerment Community Systematic literatur The purpose of this study was to synthesize research results with the topic of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia using the Scopus database. The method used is a semi-systematic literature review (SSLR). Semi-systematic analysis shows that there are two main themes, namely the identification of scientific journals that contain articles on the topic of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia and the phenomenon of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia from previous studies. The findings in this study are publications on the topic of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia, the phenomenon of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia still can be explored more deeply considering the surge in articles related to this topic in 2020; Community empowerment is one of the strategies to reduce poverty in Indonesia. As a coping strategy, community empowerment is also provided with related regulations. The National Program for Independent Community Empowerment, empowerment of microfinance institutions (LKM), and micro-credit schemes and tourist villages are examples of the application of the concept of community empowerment in Indonesia, but the application still requires some improvements, for example by considering Social capital such as local institutions and local knowledge, local customs, norms and customs as an effort to apply the concept of community empowerment are getting closer to the main goal, namely reducing poverty and improving community welfare.

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# Introduction

Indonesia has a large population, more than 270 million people. This has an impact on the level of welfare which will be disrupted if the government as a stakeholder cannot manage the productivity of the community so that they can be empowered. Through its continuous publications since the early 1990s, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has used per capita income, educational attainment, and apparent life expectancy as indicators of public

health levels used (Lubis & Sukarniati, 2022). The emergence of the phenomenon of the poor is caused by the increasing number of people who are not accompanied by optimal empowerment. The existence of poor communities who mostly occupy urban slum areas requires empowerment assistance focused on community self-reliance develops economic enterprises, increases business productivity, and improves community well-being, where empowerment is intended so that people can solve various problems independently towards improving welfare (Surya et al., 2021). Economics is the science that explains how people make the best decisions to meet their needs in life (Aprianto & Qur'an, 2021).

Empowerment can be achieved by providing the widest opportunity for them (village residents) as development subjects to manage themselves with their natural resources, human resources, and tools for mutual prosperity (Monteiro & de Noronha, 2020). Community empowerment is the process of making people or communities who have the capacity or ability to do something even though they are under pressure, obstacles, or domination by power. Human resources are the main supporting elements in the development process in addition to natural resources and technology (Cavalieri & Neves Almeida, 2018). According to (Zimmerman, 1995) empowerment is an effort to develop the community, improve the quality of life, and provide opportunities for citizen participation. In general, community empowerment is an effort to create/increase the capacity of the community, both individually and in groups, in solving various problems related to efforts to improve the quality of life, independence, and welfare (Sulistyani, 2017).

The factors that influence the low level of community empowerment are the low level of participation in groups, inappropriate empowerment patterns, lack of physical and socioeconomic environmental support, low resource characteristics, and lack of information according to needs (Purnomo et al., 2020; Sadono et al., 2012). In the research of (Djafar et al., 2019) it is said that the poverty alleviation strategy based on community empowerment programs carried out through mentoring, facilitation, and promotion activities is not optimal. Furthermore, (Nugrahani, Suharni, et al., 2019) stated that community empowerment and participation can reduce poverty. Community participation and empowerment in question is the optimization of productive groups with a focus on education, health, economy, and the environment (Nugrahani, Saptatiningsih, et al., 2019). In addition, (Dass et al., 2019) stated that the community is not yet fully empowered and still depends on outside assistance. Based on these phenomena, the focus research gap of this article is to dig deeper into community-based community empowerment in Indonesia, both in terms of phenomena, problems, and rules described in scientific publications.

Research on empowerment is very suitable to be researched and applied in Indonesia. Several studies related to empowerment such as in the fisheries sector, tourist villages, labor market.

Empowerment can be done through social entrepreneurship is a movement with a social mission to find and exploit opportunities through innovation and continuous learning processes, fueled by a willingness to act even with limited resources (Prasetyani et al., 2022).

# **Method**

The literature review in this article uses a semi-systematic approach. A semi-systematic literature review (SSLR) is a synthesis of multidimensional topics that allows researchers to map themes, theoretical approaches, and commonalities that are limited by the scope of the review objectives (Omazic & Zunk, 2021; Synder, 2019; Tranfield et al., 2003). The SSLR steps in this article are divided into three, namely identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion. The first stage is identification, carried out through database selection and keyword selection. The literature search process for SSLR using the Scopus database and literature search was carried out in June 2022.

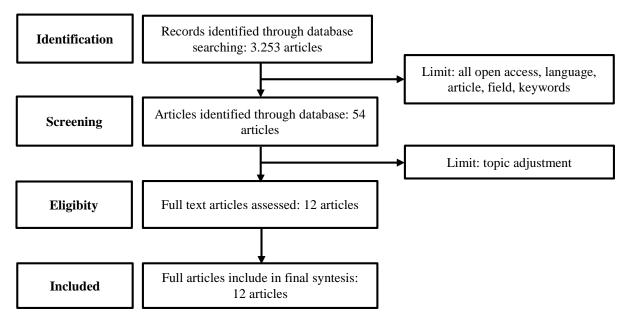


Fig 1. Flowchart of Literature Review on Community-Based Empowerment in Indonesia adapted from (Page et al., 2021)

In the selection of keywords to build the relevance of the topic of community-based community empowerment, in the Scopus database, the keyword selection was narrowed to the article title, abstract, and keywords. The string used is "community empowerment" or "based on" and community and Indonesia", with the string detected 3,253 articles with restrictions on the article being published until June 2022. Next is the screening stage, at this stage filtering is carried out in the form of restrictions or limits in the form of complete articles that can be accessed (all open access), the language limit used is English, and articles are narrowed down to the economic field, articles use Indonesian keywords, document searches are devoted to only articles detected 54

articles. The feasibility stage was carried out, namely adjustments to the topics raised, and 12 articles were detected. The results were 12 articles with details in 2015 as many as 2 articles, in 2018 as many as 1 article, in 2019 as many as 2 articles, in 2020 as many as 6 articles, in 2021 as many as 1 article.

### **Result and Discussion**

This study synthesizes the results of research with the topic of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia using the Scopus database. This study identifies scientific journals that contain articles on the topic of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia and the phenomenon of community-based community empowerment in Indonesia from previous studies.

# Containing Articles on the Topic of Community-Based Community Empowerment in Indonesia

The database used in this article is 12 articles to answer questions. The first question is the identification of scientific journals that contain articles on the topic of Community-Based Community Empowerment in Indonesia. Most of the articles are published in the Journal of Asian Finance, Economics, and Business, or about 25 percent of published articles related to Community-Based Community Empowerment in Indonesia. Furthermore, 16.67 percent in the International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy, 16.67 percent in the Asian Social Science journal, and the remaining 8.33 percent are published in Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journals, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Issues journals, the journal Forest Policy and Economics, the journal Investment Management and Financial Innovations, and the journal Journal of Distribution Science.

Judging from the distribution of article publications over time (Fig 2), articles in this field have increased threefold from the 2015 to 2020 period, of which there were 6 articles in 2020, and in 2021 there was a decrease of 1 article. In terms of author affiliation, the highest position is Sebelas Maret University with 2 articles, in addition to the affiliation, there are 1 article each, namely Dartmouth College, Institute Teacher Training and Education of PGRI, Nahdlatul Ulama Islamic University (Unisnu), Indonesian Christian University Maluku, Yogyakarta Muhammadiyah University, Indonesian Muslim University, Sebelas Maret University, Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University, Malaysia Technical University Melaka, University of Brawijaya, University of Essex.

# **Community-Based Empowerment in Indonesia**

Many researchers have conducted empirical studies on community-based community empowerment in Indonesia (Anwar et al., 2019; Cahyono et al., 2018; Erbaugh, 2019; Laurens & Putra, 2020; Mafruhah et al., 2019, 2020; Rachmawatie et al., 2020; Zainudin & Kamarudin, 2015).

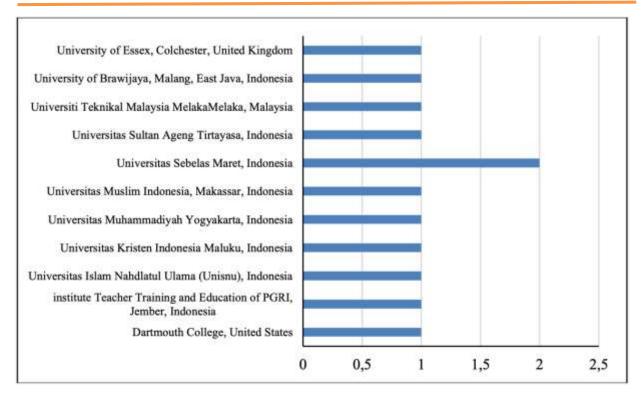


Fig 2. Authors Affiliation Related to Community-Based Empowerment in Indonesia

There are several analytical tools used for community-based community empowerment in Indonesia. Data collection through in-depth interviews (Anwar et al., 2019; Nuzuli et al., 2015; Purnomo et al., 2020), partial least square (SEM-PLS) (Rachmawatie et al., 2020), System dynamics (Sjaifuddin, 2020), Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) (Dahliah et al., 2020), Focus Group Discussion (FGD) (Laurens & Putra, 2020), Geographic Information System -ATLAS.ti-MACTOR (Mafruhah et al., 2020), descriptive (Erbaugh, 2019), Loqation Quotion – SWOT – Trend - Analysis of Community Economic Empowerment in the agricultural subsector (Cahyono et al., 2018). The case studies studied were in the Special Region of Yogyakarta (Rachmawatie et al., 2020), Rawa Danau-Banten (Sjaifuddin, 2020), Indonesia (Dahliah et al., 2020; Erbaugh, 2019)Ponggok Village-Central Java Province (Purnomo et al., 2020), Central Java (Anwar et al., 2019; Mafruhah et al., 2020), North Morowali Regency-Central Sulawesi Province (Laurens & Putra, 2020), Lumajang district (Cahyono et al., 2018), Banjarbaru-South Kalimantan (Nuzuli et al., 2015), Malaysia and Indonesia (Zainudin & Kamarudin, 2015).

Conceptually, empowerment is an effort to increase the dignity of the community so that it is free from poverty and backwardness with the subject of himself or through increasing his potential abilities (Udin, 2020). The poverty alleviation program must help participants achieve their social and economic welfare through empowerment in social investment and active participation in economic investment (Zainudin & Kamarudin, 2015). Empowerment is an effort to build strength itself, by encouraging, motivating, raising awareness of its potential, and

facilitating the community, in other words community empowerment is more focused on how to provide a proportional role so that the community can play an active role in social activities (Rachmawatie et al., 2020). The concept further developed by (Friedmann, 1992) is alternative development that requires inclusive democracy, appropriate economic growth, gender equality, and intergenerational equality. In empowerment, also known as the triple helix concept, the concept is based on social strength (aiming to increase the social capacity of communities to create productive societies), environmental strength (developmental capacity). The concept of social and community transformation in human empowerment, including creating a sustainable environment) and economic power (aiming to create economic power to create a productive society) (Purnomo et al., 2020).

Empowerment is a long-term process that requires certain steps ranging from socialization, training, to assistance that requires community involvement (Mafruhah et al., 2019). Therefore, community empowerment requires improving the quality of human resources and providing assistance to the community so that environmental sustainability can be maintained and prosperity is achieved (Erbaugh, 2019; Mafruhah et al., 2020). The application of community empowerment in Indonesia for example the National Program for Community Empowerment Mandiri (PNPM Mandiri) as an umbrella for all poverty reduction programs in the country which was launched in 2007 as a poverty alleviation mechanism that involves community development which includes activities such as planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (Zainudin & Kamarudin, 2015). Furthermore, one of the strategies To enhance the effectiveness of antipoverty measures in the Presidential Decree (2010) focuses on community empowerment, meaning that community empowerment is One of the Key Strategies to overcome poverty in Indonesia (Laurens & Putra, 2020). Meanwhile, the findings in research are that The practice of community economic empowerment in many countries, including Indonesia, overemphasizes the importance of the role of natural capital and modern economic capital such as man-made goods, technology, and management, leading to an overemphasis on societies such as rural areas. We often ignore the importance of capital. Institutions, local wisdom, norms, local customs. One form of empowerment in the MSME sector has proven to be successful in reducing poverty and increasing people's income, and is very effective when coupled with the empowerment of microfinance institutions (MFIs) and microcredit schemes (Anwar et al., 2019). One form of empowerment in the field of tourism as an effort Empowering communities to reduce poverty is the concept of community empowerment through the establishment of tourism villages (Tolkach & King, 2015). In the research (Nuzuli et al., 2015) of, efforts to encourage community empowerment through increasing the go green and clean model in people's lives.

Village communities determine the type of business by considering the potential of the area they have, creating institutions and service systems from, by, and for the community (Rachmawatie et al., 2020). One of the community empowerment carried out is: economic empowerment improving the economic quality of rural communities (Cahyono et al., 2018). Community empowerment that comes from local wisdom or regional potential or advantages will be able to increase economic competitiveness but have not been able to develop it (Dahliah et al., 2020; Mafruhah et al., 2020). The government has the responsibility and duty to identify potential and provide direction to the community in an effort to increase empowerment (Mafruhah et al., 2020). The driving factors for the empowerment and development of rural communities are influenced by individual characteristics, the environment, and group support (Rachmawatie et al., 2020). The greater the encouragement or environmental investment, the higher the intensity of local community empowerment will further encourage.

# **Conclusion**

Community-based community empowerment in Indonesia is a topic that researchers are quite interested in, it can be seen from the increase in the distribution of publications from 2015 to 2020. Around 25 percent of publications related to this topic are published in the Journal of Asian Finance, Economics, and Business. The threefold increase in publications related to community-based community empowerment in Indonesia reflects the interest and motivation in exploring studies and issues regarding this matter in Indonesia. In general, community empowerment is based on potential or local wisdom to improve welfare so that they come out of backwardness and poverty and can further develop their capabilities. Some examples of community empowerment carried out in Indonesia include the National Independent Community Empowerment Program (PNPM Mandiri), empowerment of microfinance institutions (LKM), and micro-credit schemes as well as tourist villages that emphasize community empowerment. Regarding community empowerment in Indonesia, Presidential Regulation No. 15 of 2010 has also supported strategies to increase the effectiveness of poverty reduction efforts, one of which focuses on community empowerment. However, there is one publication that states that the application of community empowerment in Indonesia still ignoring the importance of social capital such as local institutions, local wisdom, and local norms and customs.

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