

# The Influence of Geographical Location on the Level of Community Participation in the Management of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall Tourism

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**Abstract**—*The geographical location of a tourist destination has a major influence on the level of community participation in its management. Tumpak Sewu Waterfall, located in a hilly area with quite challenging access, faces various obstacles in community involvement. Accessibility, infrastructure, and government policy factors are the main determinants of community participation in tourism management. A qualitative descriptive approach was used in this study with a literature study method. Data were obtained from various sources such as academic journals, research reports, and related articles that discuss the geographical aspects and community participation in tourism. The results of the study show that limited accessibility, minimal supporting infrastructure, and economic challenges are the main obstacles for the community. In addition, the lack of education and training related to sustainable tourism management also contributes to the low level of community participation. Policy and regulatory factors that are not yet fully supportive also become obstacles in managing geography-based tourism. The geographical location of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall contributes to various obstacles in community participation in tourism management. To increase community involvement, it is necessary to improve accessibility, develop infrastructure, and provide education and training programs that support community-based tourism management. Policy support from the government is also needed to create a more inclusive and sustainable tourism ecosystem.*

**Keywords**— *community participation, economy, Tumpak Sewu waterfall, tourist destination*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Tumpak Sewu Waterfall, located on the border of Lumajang and Malang Regencies, East Java, is one of the natural attractions that attracts foreign and domestic tourists. [1] Due to its high location, there are a number of hills that are difficult to access, thus affecting local community participation in tourism development. Geographical location can affect the level of community participation in everything from facilities, marketing to the environment. [2]

Sustainable tourism development is a fairly well-known idea in tourism development [3]. Sustainable tourism is tourism that takes into account current and future economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts.

[4] Community participation in tourism management is essential to ensure sustainability and economic benefits for local communities. [5]

Studies show that the community around Tumpak Sewu Waterfall has played an active role in tourism development, both through tourism awareness groups and local businesses that support the tourism sector. However, challenges such as accessibility and infrastructure often become obstacles in increasing their participation optimally.

(1) Waterfall, Tumpak Sewu, Sidomulyo Village, and Pronojiwo District. "Community Participation in the Development of Nature Tourism in Tumpak Sewu Waterfall, Sidomulyo Village, Pronojiwo District, Lumajang Regency Community Participation in the Development of Nature Tourism in."

(2) Parino Rahardjo, FC (23). COMMUNITY BASED ECOTOURISM MANAGEMENT STUDY TUMPAK SEWU. Journal of Tourism & Sports Management (JTSM) (ISSN: 2642-021X), 290-1295.

(3) Apriliana, Rizky Ayu, et al. "DEVELOPMENT OF MEDJET SPRINGS TOURISM IN SELELOS VILLAGE, GANGGA DISTRICT, NORTH LOMBOK REGENCY." *Pepadu Journal* 5.1 (2024): 108-114.

(4) Wibowo, Muchammad Satrio, and Lutfi Arviana Belia. "Community participation in sustainable tourism development." *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management* 6.1 (2023): 25-32.

(5) Rubiyatno, Rubiyatno, Lucia Kurniawati, and Fransisca Desiana Pranatasari. "Development of Sustainable Tourism Strategy for Tourist Villages in Yogyakarta Through SWOT Analysis (SWOT Quadrant Matrix and Efas & Ifas)." *JMBI UNSRAT (Scientific Journal of Business Management and Innovation, Sam Ratulangi University)*. 10.3 (2023): 2218-2133.

## II. METHOD

This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach with a literature study method. This approach aims to describe phenomena that occur systematically and objectively based on existing sources. The design of this study is in the form of a literature study, which means that data is collected from various written sources such as scientific journals, books, research reports, and academic articles. Literature studies allow researchers to analyze and compare various perspectives and findings that have been previously published.

This research is based on literature study, the samples used are documents and scientific publications that are relevant to the research topic. Sample selection is based on the credibility of the source, relevance to the research theme, and the recency of the information. This literature study was conducted with the qualification of the selected articles because they have a research focus on community participation in sustainable tourism development. Based on these criteria, the researcher conducted a search for articles with the keywords: 1) Participation, 2) Local communities, and 3) Tourism development.

There are 5 articles (Table 1) related to the analysis of the research focus. The scientific articles that have been found are focused on the study of community participation in sustainable tourism development. The research period is 5 years back. For reference books, there is no limitation on the year of publication. Then, the article is analyzed descriptively qualitatively.

**Table 1.** Literature Related to Community Participation in Tourism Management

	<b>Title / Year of Publication</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
1	Community Participation in the Development of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall Nature Tourism, Sidomulyo Village, Pronojiwo District, Lumajang Regency (2021)	The Story of Nanda Satria Putranto
2	COMMUNITY BASED ECOTOURISM MANAGEMENT STUDY OF TUMPAK SEWU WATERFALL AND GOA TETES IN SIDOMULYO VILLAGE, PRONOJIWO DISTRICT LUMAJANG REGENCY (2022)	Parino Rahardjo, Farisha Chaidir
3	DEVELOPMENT OF MEDJET SPRINGS TOURISM IN SELELOS VILLAGE, GANGGA DISTRICT, NORTH LOMBOK REGENCY (2024)	The following are the names of the actors who have been named Rizky Ayu Apriliana, Andre Rachmat Scabra, Syifa Madaniyah, Muhammad Fidhun, Agus Irawan Pratama, and many more.

4	DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM STRATEGIES FOR TOURIST VILLAGES IN YOGYAKARTA THROUGH SWOT ANALYSIS (SWOT QUADRANT MATRIX AND EFAS & IFAS) (2023)	Rubiyatno, Lucia Kurniawati, Fransisca Desiana Pranatasari
5	Development of tourism potential as a tourist attraction at Cemoro Sewu Beach, Selok Anyar Village, Lumajang Regency (2022)	The story of Uswatun Hasanah, Era Iswara Pangastuti, Fahmi Arif Kurnianto, Elan Artono Nurdin

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The geographical location of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall in Sidomulyo Village, Pronojiwo District, Lumajang Regency, has a major influence on the level of community participation in tourism management.

Here are some factors that play a role:

1. Accessibility – Remote locations and challenging terrain can limit the number of tourists and community participation in tourism management. Inadequate infrastructure can be a barrier to community involvement.
2. Local Economic Potential – The natural beauty of Tumpak Sewu attracts tourists, so that local people have the opportunity to develop businesses such as food stalls, lodging, and tour guide services. However, limited capital and business knowledge can be obstacles.
3. Community Awareness and Involvement – Local communities have participated in tourism management through Tourism Awareness Groups (Pokdarwis), which play a role in tourism planning, development, and operations. However, the level of participation still depends on the support of the government and related organizations.
4. Environmental Impact and Sustainability – The existence of this nature tourism also requires the community to maintain environmental sustainability. Their participation in conservation and waste management is very important to maintain long-term tourist attractions.
5. Government Support and Policy – Government regulations and policies influence community participation. If there is support in the form of training, financial assistance, or tourism promotion, community involvement can be increased.

In article 1, it is written that there are several stages in the implementation of the construction of Tumpak Sewu including the construction of road access, viewpoints, road signs, and promotion. The first stage, the construction of road access from the village to the Tumpak Sewu viewpoint, from here it can be seen that there is community participation in contributing resources. Community participation in the construction of road access can be seen in donating their energy and simple equipment to help open the road. Here the community is free to help or not in opening the road, during the road opening the number of members who help is uncertain, at one time up to 50 people can help but later on there could be 3 people left.

The community feels the benefits of the development of the Tumpak Sewu tourist attraction. This benefit is marked by the existence of people who can fill their free time and increase community income. The community also feels negative results, such as garbage pollution, and large buses that cause traffic jams and village roads are quickly damaged. The community has not felt the benefits of the Tumpak Sewu Waterfall Nature Tourism from the government as seen from the absence of public facilities from the government that can be used to support the daily lives of the community. As written in article 2 To realize the Tumpak Sewu Waterfall as a tourist destination, community groups provide access to reach the tourist destination, by connecting existing village roads, then creating a viewpoint to make it easier for tourists to see the waterfall as a whole from above, and to make it easier for tourists to enjoy the waterfall up close, stairs or steps are made because of the extreme slope. Article 3 adds that Accessibility has a major influence on the level of community participation in various aspects, including tourism management. When access to a tourist location is easy and supporting facilities are available, the community is more encouraged to be involved in the management and development of the destination. Article 4 adds that in the SO strategy, tourism village managers are advised to be aware of the Community Based Tourism-based tourism management pattern. In community life in the village, familiarity and togetherness between residents are superior and unique to attract potential tourists whose numbers continue to grow. Data on cultural heritage attractions, local expertise and geographical attractions need to be packaged uniquely as a form of diversification of village tourism.

Another form of participation is stated in article 5 written by Uswatun Hasanah (2022) Community participation in tourism management is also an important factor in development. By involving local residents in tourism management and promotion, the economic potential of this sector can be further utilized. For example, the community can develop businesses such as food stalls, tour guide services, or equipment rentals. However,

despite its geographical advantages, tourism development still faces several challenges. One of the main factors is suboptimal accessibility. Inadequate road infrastructure makes the journey to the beach less comfortable for tourists. In addition, the lack of supporting facilities, such as parking, toilets, and lodging, is an obstacle for tourists who want to enjoy the beach longer.

The remote location and challenging terrain can limit the number of tourists and community participation in tourism management. Inadequate infrastructure can be an obstacle for the community to be more actively involved. The natural beauty of Tumpak Sewu attracts tourists, so that local people have the opportunity to develop businesses such as food stalls, lodging, and tour guide services. However, limited capital and business knowledge can be obstacles.

Community Involvement Local communities have participated in tourism management through Tourism Awareness Groups that play a role in tourism planning, development, and operations. However, the level of participation still depends on support from the government and related organizations. In addition, the lack of education and training related to sustainable tourism management also contributes to the low level of community participation. Policy and regulatory factors that are not fully supportive also become obstacles in managing geography-based tourism. The geographical location of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall contributes to various obstacles in community participation in tourism management. To increase community involvement, it is necessary to improve accessibility, develop infrastructure, and provide education and training programs that support community-based tourism management. Policy support from the government is also needed to create a more inclusive and sustainable tourism ecosystem.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The geographical location of Tumpak Sewu Waterfall plays a major role in the level of community participation in tourism management. The involvement of residents in economic, social, and environmental aspects reflects the importance of their role in maintaining the sustainability of this natural tourism. With good management, Tumpak Sewu tourism will not only be a favorite destination but also a source of welfare for the surrounding community. Accessibility and Infrastructure The location which is far from the city center makes the local community play a role in providing transportation access, such as motorcycle taxi services and vehicle rentals. Limited infrastructure encourages residents to be involved in the development of tourism facilities.

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