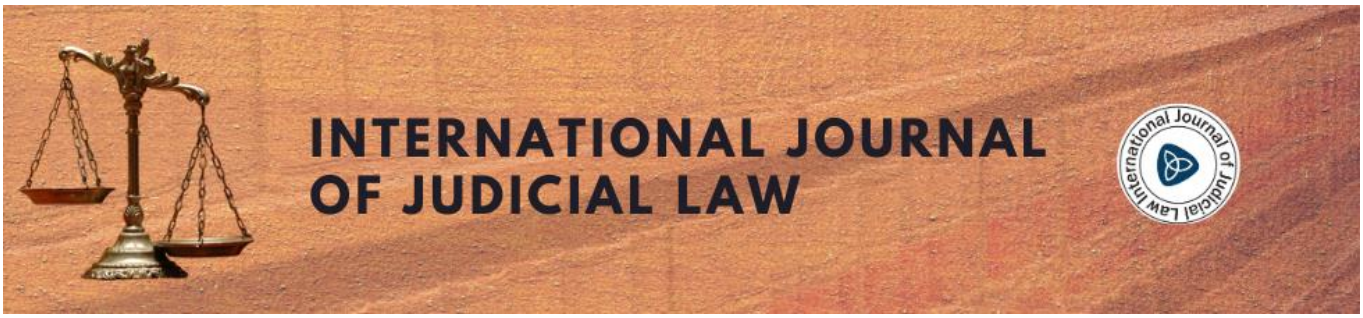




Village Facilitators' Actions in Preventing Village Fund Corruption: A Case Study in Southwest Praya District, Central Lombok Regency

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the forms of actions undertaken by Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption in Southwest Praya District, Central Lombok Regency, based on Regulation of the Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2025 concerning General Guidelines for Community Assistance in Villages. The study further identifies the obstacles encountered in implementing village facilitation functions and formulates effective strategies to strengthen the role of Village Facilitators in corruption prevention efforts. An empirical legal research method was employed using statutory, conceptual, and sociological approaches. Data were collected through interviews with local government officials, inspectorate representatives, village governments, Village Consultative Bodies (BPD), professional village facilitators, as well as through field observations and document analysis. The data were analyzed qualitatively using a descriptive approach supported by the theoretical frameworks of Crime Prevention Theory, Control Theory, and Opportunity Theory. The findings reveal that Village Facilitators contribute to corruption prevention through several key activities, including assisting in the formulation of Village Medium-Term Development Plans (RPJMDes) and Village Government Work Plans (RKPDDes), facilitating the preparation of Village Revenue and Expenditure Budgets (APBDes), conducting administrative verification of development activities, providing education on village financial management regulations, facilitating Village Deliberation Meetings, assisting in the preparation of accountability reports, coordinating with village governments, BPD, and local communities, and monitoring both physical development projects and community empowerment programs. These activities function as preventive mechanisms that strengthen transparency, participation, accountability, and oversight in Village Fund management. The study also identifies several challenges affecting the effectiveness of Village Facilitators, including limited administrative capacity among village officials, frequent turnover of village personnel, low levels of community participation, extensive facilitation coverage areas, an insufficient number of facilitators, regulatory complexity, and the persistence of patronage networks and kinship-based relationships. These conditions may weaken oversight mechanisms and increase the risk of Village Fund misuse. The research concludes that strengthening the capacity of village officials, improving legal literacy, promoting digitalization of village administration, enhancing community-based oversight, optimizing the utilization of the Village Financial System (Siskeudes), reinforcing coordination among supervisory institutions, and increasing the number of Village Facilitators constitute effective strategies for preventing Village Fund corruption. These measures are capable of improving village governance, strengthening legal compliance, reducing opportunities for corruption, and establishing a more sustainable corruption prevention framework at the village level.

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1. Introduction

Corruption remains a serious problem in the governance of government in Indonesia. This crime not only damages the country's economy, but also hampers development, lowers public service standards, undermines the rule of law, and diminishes public trust in government institutions. As an extraordinary crime, corruption has impacts not only limited to the economic sphere but

also impacts social, political, and legal stability as a whole.^[1] The nature of corruption in Indonesia exhibits a complex pattern, occurring at nearly all levels of government. Abuse of authority occurs not only in institutions carrying out government functions at the national and regional levels but also in village governments, which have a direct relationship with the public interest. This phenomenon demonstrates that corruption has developed into a structural problem closely related to governance, weak oversight systems, and low levels of accountability in the management of public resources.^[2]

The relationship between corruption and power has long been a concern for scholars. Lord Acton stated that: "power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." This view illustrates that any authority not balanced by effective oversight mechanisms has the potential to give rise to abuse of office. The authority inherent in public office is often exploited as a means to gain benefits for oneself or for parties with close interests, thereby marginalizing the rights and interests of the public.^[3]

The dynamics of corruption eradication in Indonesia have undergone substantial transformation since the inception of the reform agenda, which encouraged improvements to the legal system and governance. The establishment of various anti-corruption regulations, strengthening law enforcement agencies, increasing criminal penalties, and implementing anti-corruption education programs demonstrate the state's commitment to achieving clean governance. The intensity of law enforcement enforcement demonstrates progress in the repressive aspect.

The relatively consistent frequency of uncovered corruption cases across various periods indicates that the repressive approach has not been able to optimally address the root causes of corruption. The success of corruption eradication is reflected not only in the number of perpetrators successfully prosecuted and convicted, but also in the government system's ability to create preventive mechanisms that can prevent irregularities from the planning stage to the implementation of policies.^[4]

Preventive approaches are gaining increasing attention because they are considered capable of eliminating opportunities for corruption before it results in state losses. The crime prevention perspective emphasizes the importance of strengthening oversight, increasing transparency, and developing systems capable of early detection of potential irregularities. This strategy is relevant for all levels of government, including village governments, which currently manage significant public budgets.^[5]

The annual increase in the Village Fund reflects the state's strong trust in villages as development entities. The legal basis for this position is Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, which grants villages broader authority to regulate

and manage community interests based on their ancestral rights and village-wide local authority. This expansion of authority is accompanied by fiscal support through the Village Fund, sourced from the State Budget. This policy is intended not only to accelerate development and empower village communities but also to realize independent, participatory village governance that is oriented toward improving community welfare.^[6]

The allocation of Village Funds is primarily oriented toward improving community welfare through more equitable development, strengthening village infrastructure and public services, reducing disparities between regions, and creating village independence as a foundation for sustainable national development. The substantial budget allocation received by each village creates significant opportunities for accelerated development. This situation also presents significant risks if Village Fund management is not accompanied by an adequate monitoring and mentoring system. Unequal capacity of village officials, limited understanding of transparent and accountable village financial governance, and a weak internal oversight system are factors that have the potential to open up room for irregularities in Village Fund management.^[7]

The vulnerability of corruption in the village sector is reflected in the various cases handled by law enforcement officials in recent years. Corruption eradication data indicates that the village government sector remains quite vulnerable to state financial misappropriation. According to the *2024 Corruption Eradication Trends Monitoring report* published by Indonesia Corruption Watch, law enforcement officials handled 364 corruption cases throughout 2024, with 77 cases, or approximately one-fifth of the total, originating from the village sector. This proportion suggests that the increase in Village Fund allocation has not been fully accompanied by strengthening governance capacity, oversight systems, and legal compliance. This situation also emphasizes the importance of systematic corruption prevention efforts through strengthening village institutions, participatory oversight, and ongoing mentoring of village government officials.^[8]

Village Fund corruption generally involves fictitious work, manipulation of accountability reports, abuse of authority, embezzlement, activity budget cuts, and *mark-ups* on goods and services. These irregularities indicate that Village Fund corruption occurs more frequently in the administrative, planning, activity implementation, and financial management aspects. This pattern indicates that corruption prevention must begin at the village development planning stage and not only after state financial losses have occurred.^[9]

The social characteristics of village communities also influence the effectiveness of oversight of Village Fund use. Strong kinship ties, the dominance of certain figures within

¹ Muhammad Syahdoe MZ, Sayuti, H. Hermanto Harun., *The Effectiveness of the Death Penalty for Corruptors* (Muaro Jambi: CV. RA-Media Publishing, 2025), p. 13.

² WM Herry Susilowati, "Governance of Law Enforcement Institutions for Corruption Eradication in Indonesia." *Research Report - Humanities and Social Sciences* 2 (2012): p. 37.

³ Albertus Heriyanto, "Bobot Leadership in Modern Maybrat Society." *Limen, Journal of Religion and Culture* 20.1 (October) (2023): pp. 66-94.

⁴ Corruption Eradication Commission, *KPK Annual Report 2024* Corruption Eradication Commission, *KPK Annual Report 2024* (Jakarta: Corruption Eradication Commission, 2025), p. 15.

⁵ I. Gusti Agung Ngurah Agung, Simon Nahak, *Legal Study on the Aggravation of Corruption Crimes and Comprehensive Analysis Prevention Strategies in the Indonesian Legal System* (Bandung: Dira Media Kreasindo, 2025), p. 11.

⁶ Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages

⁷ Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, *Village Fund Policy*

⁸ Indonesia Corruption Watch, *Report on the Results of Monitoring Corruption Trends in 2024* (Jakarta: Indonesia Corruption Watch, 2025), p. 15

⁹ *Ibid.*

the social structure, and the persistent culture of patronage in some rural areas can influence decision-making and village development implementation. These conditions have the potential to reduce the effectiveness of social control if not balanced with strengthened community participation and independent oversight.^[10]

The need for a more effective corruption prevention system makes Village Facilitators a significant element in strengthening village governance. Village Facilitators hold a unique position because they are directly involved in development planning, village document preparation, financial management, community empowerment, and capacity building of village officials. Village Facilitators' close involvement with the village government process provides them with the opportunity to detect potential misuse of Village Funds early.

Regulation of the Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2025 concerning General Guidelines for Village Community Assistance emphasizes that Village Facilitators have facilitation, education, mediation, and advocacy functions for both village governments and village communities. This function demonstrates that Village Facilitators not only play a role in assisting with village administration but also have the potential to become an instrument for corruption prevention by increasing transparency, accountability, and compliance with applicable legal provisions.^[11]

Studies related to Village Fund corruption have developed through various studies conducted by experts. Previous research generally focused on the legal responsibility of village heads, the effectiveness of law enforcement against corruptors, accountability in Village Fund management, and the role of supervisory institutions and law enforcement officials in overseeing village budget use. Research that places Village Facilitators as the primary focus of corruption prevention strategies is still scarce in the academic literature.^[12]

The limited empirical evidence in the existing literature indicates that there is still room for research into the relationship between the facilitation, education, mediation, and advocacy functions of Village Facilitators and efforts to prevent Village Fund corruption. Previous research generally explains the duties and functions of Village Facilitators in normative terms or examines aspects of village development in general. Studies specifically analyzing Village Facilitators' actions as an instrument for corruption prevention, the obstacles encountered in implementing their mentoring duties, and strategies for strengthening their role in preventing Village Fund corruption are still scarce.

Another pressing issue relates to the increasing amount of Village Funds managed by village governments each year. The large budget allocation must be balanced with transparent and accountable management to ensure optimal village development. The high number of Village Fund corruption cases demonstrates that strengthening regulations

and criminal penalties are insufficient to prevent misappropriation. An effective prevention system requires the involvement of actors capable of providing guidance, supervision, legal education, and early detection of potential irregularities in Village Fund management.^[13]

Another pressing issue relates to the increasing amount of Village Funds managed by village governments each year. The large budget allocation must be balanced with transparent and accountable governance to ensure optimal village development goals are achieved. The effectiveness of Village Facilitators' actions in preventing corruption is a crucial issue because it directly relates to efforts to maintain the integrity of village financial management and protect state finances.

The Southwest Praya area in Central Lombok Regency was selected as the research site due to its active implementation of Village Fund-based development and the involvement of Village Facilitators in the village governance process. This situation provides adequate space to examine the Village Facilitators' actions in preventing Village Fund corruption, the obstacles encountered in carrying out their mentoring duties, and strategies that can be implemented to strengthen the effectiveness of the Village Facilitators' role as an instrument for corruption prevention. The results of this study are expected to enrich the scientific body of knowledge in the field of corruption prevention law and generate applicable input to strengthen village governance based on the principles of cleanliness, openness, and integrity.

Based on the problem construction, research gaps, and research urgency that have been described, the formulation of the problem in this study is how the Village Facilitator's Actions in Praya Barat Daya District are in preventing Village Fund corruption based on the Regulation of the Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2025 concerning General Guidelines for Village Community Assistance, what obstacles are faced by Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption and what effective strategies can be implemented to strengthen the role of Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption.

2. Research Method

The type of research used in this study is empirical legal research. Empirical legal research is legal research that aims to examine law in its concrete form and examine how it operates in society.^[14]

Practically, empirical legal research and sociological legal research refer to the same thing: examining how the law operates in society. The purpose of sociological legal research is to understand how the law is implemented, including the law enforcement process. This type of research can uncover issues underlying the implementation and enforcement of the law. Furthermore, the results of this research can be used as material in the drafting of legislation.^[15]

¹⁰ Rachma Aprilia, and Elvia Rosantina Shauki, "The role of the community in monitoring Village Funds," *Indonesian Treasury Review: Journal of Treasury, State Finance and Public Policy* 5.1 (2020): pp. 61-75.

¹¹ Regulation of the Minister of Villages and PDT Number 3 of 2025

¹² Barda Nawawi Arief, *Anthology of Criminal Law Policy* (Jakarta: Kencana, 2016), pp. 29–34

¹³ Habib Firmansyah, and Naufal Sinatria, "The Influence of Village Apparatus Competence and Internal Control on Fraud Prevention in Village Fund Management," *Jurnal of Accounting and Business Science* 6.1 (2025): pp. 1-11.

¹⁴ Muhaimin, *Legal Research Methods*, (Mataram: Mataram University Press, 2020), p. 83.

¹⁵ Amiruddin and Zainal Asikin, *Op.Cit.*, pp. 134-135

3. Discussion

3.1. The Form of Action of Village Companions in Southwest Praya District in Preventing Corruption of Village Funds

The research results show that Village Facilitators play a strategic role in preventing Village Fund corruption through mentoring, supervision, coaching, and strengthening legal awareness in order to realize transparent, accountable, and regulatory-compliant governance.

A. Assistance in the Preparation of RPJMDes and RKPDes

The research findings indicate that mentoring in the development of the RPJMDes and RKPDes is a preventive strategy to prevent Village Fund corruption through transparent, participatory, and regulatory-compliant planning. Village facilitators strengthen governance, reduce the risk of abuse of authority, and ensure development is oriented toward community interests.

B. Assistance in the Preparation of Village Budgets

The research results show that assistance in the preparation of the Village Budget (APBDes) significantly contributes to efforts to prevent corruption in Village Funds. This action is carried out through verification of planning documents, budget fairness audits, strengthening transparency, assistance in the use of the Village Financial Management System (Siskeudes), and facilitating coordination between village institutions.

Village Budget (APBDes) assistance not only helps complete administrative documents but also serves as a preventive oversight tool capable of closing various budget irregularities from the financial planning stage. The presence of Village Facilitators at this stage reflects a more effective preventative approach than waiting for violations to emerge, which are then handled through legal enforcement mechanisms by law enforcement officials.

C. Activity Administration Verification

Village Facilitator supervision not only improves administrative compliance but also fosters an accountable work culture through coaching and evaluation. Each finding serves as an educational tool so village officials understand errors and are able to make improvements in accordance with legal requirements.

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D. Education on Village Fund Management Regulations

Research findings indicate that regulatory education conducted by Village Facilitators plays a strategic role in preventing Village Fund corruption. This includes regulatory dissemination, technical consultations, capacity building of village officials, strengthening the oversight function of the Village Consultative Body (BPD), and disseminating information on the legal risks of Village Fund misuse.

Practices implemented in Praya Barat Daya District demonstrate that regulatory education is not merely a formal outreach activity, but rather part of a systematic strategy to build a culture of law and integrity in Village Fund

management. The presence of Village Facilitators in this role directly contributes to reducing the risk of corruption by increasing village officials' understanding, awareness, and compliance with applicable legal provisions.

E. Facilitation Deliberation Village

The research also shows that Village Facilitators encourage the preparation of comprehensive minutes and documentation of Village Deliberations. This documentation serves as a control tool that can be used to track the alignment between deliberation decisions and the implementation of development activities.

This fact demonstrates that documenting deliberation outcomes plays a strategic role in fostering accountability. Well-documented decisions will make it more difficult to make unilateral program changes or manipulate budget use. Village Facilitators also strive to ensure that the results of Village Deliberations are publicized to the community through village information boards, Village Budget billboards, and other information media. This publication is part of a strategy to build transparency and strengthen public oversight.

F. Mentoring Preparation of Accountability Reports

The research results show that Village Facilitators also cross-reference physical realization reports with construction conditions on the ground. This activity is carried out to ensure that work volumes, technical specifications, and budget allocations align with those stated in the accountability report.

This practice is crucial because one of the most common methods of Village Fund corruption is fictitious reporting or *markup* of work volumes. Field verification serves as a mechanism to detect potential irregularities early.

Village Facilitators also play a role in ensuring that the results of development activities are disseminated to the community through various village information media. Transparency in accountability reports is part of efforts to strengthen social oversight of the use of Village Funds.

The Crime Prevention Theory perspective explains that these measures serve to reduce the opportunity for irregularities by strengthening administrative and documentation systems. *The Control Theory perspective* asserts that administrative verification and oversight are effective forms of control in preventing abuse of authority.

The practices implemented by Village Facilitators in Praya Barat Daya District show that corruption prevention is not only carried out through supervision of activity implementation, but also through strengthening the accountability system that is able to ensure that every rupiah of Village Funds is used according to development goals and the interests of the community.

G. Coordination with Village Government, BPD, and Community

Research analysis shows that coordination with the village government, the Village Consultative Body (BPD), and the community is crucial in preventing Village Fund corruption. This coordination is achieved through intensive communication, technical consultations, strengthening oversight capacity, facilitating community participation, and mediating various issues that arise in village governance.

All the actions of Village Facilitators described, from mentoring the RPJMDes and RKPDes, to mentoring the

APBDes, verifying activity administration, educating about regulations, facilitating Village Deliberations, assisting with accountability reports, and coordinating with the village government, BPD, and the community, demonstrate that the role of Village Facilitators extends beyond administrative duties. This role has evolved into a strategic instrument for preventing Village Fund corruption through strengthening village governance, increasing the capacity of village officials, building legal awareness, and strengthening participatory oversight at the local level.

H. Monitoring Physical Development and Community Empowerment

The research results show that Village Facilitators in Praya Barat Daya District routinely conduct field monitoring of development activities funded by Village Funds. Monitoring is conducted from the project implementation stage until completion and handover. These activities include checking the suitability of work volume, material quality, construction progress, community involvement, and alignment between project implementation and village planning and budgeting documents.^[16]

The research findings demonstrate that Village Facilitators play a strategic role in developing a corruption prevention system based on village governance. The effectiveness of this role lies in the Village Facilitators' ability to integrate facilitation, education, coordination, and oversight functions, thereby minimizing the potential for misuse of Village Funds from the planning stage through to activity accountability.

3.2. Obstacles Faced by Village Facilitators In Preventing Village Fund Corruption

Results Field research shows that the obstacles faced by Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption are multidimensional, encompassing aspects of governance, law, oversight, and structural factors that open up opportunities for irregularities. These obstacles do not stand alone but are interconnected, forming a complex system of problems in village governance practices.

A. Low Capacity of Village Apparatus

The research results indicate that one of the main obstacles faced by Village Facilitators in Praya Barat Daya District in preventing Village Fund corruption is the low capacity of village officials, particularly regarding understanding regulations, village financial management, preparing planning documents, and administering activity accountability. This condition was found in almost all of the villages studied, although the extent and form of the problem varied from village to village.

Based on interviews and field observations, it can be concluded that the low capacity of village officials is the most dominant obstacle in preventing Village Fund corruption in Praya Barat Daya District. These limitations include regulatory understanding, administrative skills, mastery of information technology, and competency in village financial management. This situation requires Village Facilitators to provide more intensive assistance to ensure Village Fund governance is carried out in accordance with regulations and avoids various forms of irregularities that could potentially lead to corruption.

B. High Turnover of Village Officials

Research findings indicate that the high turnover of village officials is a direct obstacle that impacts the effectiveness of Village Fund corruption prevention. This turnover requires repeated capacity-building processes, reduces the effectiveness of oversight, increases the risk of administrative errors, and slows the adaptation process to constantly evolving regulations. This situation requires Village Facilitators to act not only as development facilitators but also as knowledge transfer agents, ensuring the sustainability of village governance, ensuring it remains accountable and in accordance with corruption prevention principles.

C. Weak Community Participation

The interview results indicate that weak community participation is a real obstacle faced by Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption in the Southwest Praya District. Low community involvement in Village Deliberations, limited community oversight, suboptimal use of public information, a persistent passive culture, and strong social and kinship ties are factors that weaken the function of social control. These conditions directly impact the effectiveness of corruption prevention because the oversight that should be carried out collectively by the community has not been optimally implemented.

D. The Wide Area of Assistance

The vastness of the mentoring area is one of the obstacles that directly impacts the effectiveness of Village Facilitators' duties in preventing Village Fund corruption in Praya Barat Daya District. The geographic characteristics of the region, which consists of several villages with diverse topography, mean that the mentoring process cannot always be implemented optimally. The need for ongoing guidance, facilitation, education, monitoring, and coordination often confronts the limitations of time, distance, and resources available to Village Facilitators.

The research results show that Village Facilitators in Praya Barat Daya District are not solely responsible for one village, but must also provide assistance to several villages simultaneously. This situation requires Village Facilitators to allocate their time and attention proportionally to ensure that all assisted villages receive equal assistance services. In practice, the assistance needs of each village cannot always be optimally met due to the limited capacity of facilitators to be present intensively throughout the work area.

Field data also shows that Village Facilitators frequently utilize communication technology to overcome distance and time constraints. Consultations via telephone, email, and other communication media are alternatives for providing assistance to village governments. However, these methods cannot completely replace the need for direct field assistance, particularly for physical monitoring of development activities.

The data shows that the vast area covered by the assistance program is a real obstacle affecting the effectiveness of Village Fund corruption prevention efforts in the Praya Barat Daya District. The large number of assisted villages, diverse geographic conditions, obstacles to field mobility, high coordination requirements, and limited monitoring intensity require Village Facilitators to work with a high level of efficiency to ensure the ongoing assistance function. This

¹⁶ Interview with Kasiran, S.Adm., Village Companion, Praya Barat Daya District, February 19, 2026

situation directly impacts the ability to conduct early detection, ongoing guidance, and preventive supervision of Village Fund use, making it a factor that requires attention in strengthening the corruption prevention system at the village level.

E. Limited Number of Companions

The research results indicate that the number of available Village Facilitators must serve a number of villages with varying characteristics, needs, and levels of challenges. This reality results in a very high workload for facilitators, as each village requires relatively equal attention in planning, budgeting, development implementation, reporting, and resolving various administrative issues that arise during the Village Fund management process.

The data shows that the limited number of Village Facilitators is a structural constraint that directly impacts the effectiveness of preventing Village Fund corruption in the Praya Barat Daya District. The imbalance between the number of facilitators and the number of assisted villages increases the workload, reduces the intensity of preventive supervision, limits the development process for village officials, and weakens community empowerment efforts. This situation emphasizes that strengthening the corruption prevention system at the village level requires not only sound regulations and oversight mechanisms but also adequate support from facilitators to ensure optimal and sustainable prevention functions.

F. Regulatory Complexity

Research findings indicate that regulatory complexity is not merely a technical administrative issue, but rather a structural barrier that impacts the effectiveness of the Village Fund corruption prevention system. The numerous regulations, rapid policy changes, potential for multiple interpretations, and limited capacity of village officials require Village Facilitators to allocate significant time and energy to regulatory consultations. This situation has resulted in a reduction in the intensity of substantive assistance in aspects of oversight and community empowerment.

Regulatory complexity can ultimately be understood as a factor that increases the risk of irregularities if not balanced by increased capacity of village officials and strengthened mentoring functions. The existence of Village Facilitators is crucial because they bridge the gap in legal understanding and strengthen compliance with the norms governing Village Fund management.

G. A Culture of Patronage and Strong Family Ties

The research results show that family ties, leadership relationships, and social closeness still have a strong influence on village political life. Village heads, as leaders of village government, generally have close social ties with the majority of the community. This closeness is often formed through kinship, friendship, local political networks, or long-standing social ties. This situation makes some residents reluctant to express criticism or conduct oversight of village government policies.

Research findings show that a culture of patronage and strong family ties are cultural obstacles that cannot be easily overcome through regulatory approaches alone. Behavioral change requires a gradual process through legal education,

increased community participation, strengthening village institutions, and establishing a more objective culture of oversight.

The position of Village Facilitators is highly strategic in this process because they serve as the meeting point between the village government, the community, and various oversight institutions. The success of preventing Village Fund corruption is determined not only by the quality of regulations and oversight systems, but also by the ability of all parties to build a governance culture that prioritizes integrity, professionalism, and the public interest over personal or group interests.

Based on these findings, it can be concluded that the main obstacles facing Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption stem from institutional issues, limited human resources, a weak legal culture, low community participation, and a suboptimal oversight system. These obstacles create opportunities for misuse of Village Funds and potentially weaken the effectiveness of corruption prevention efforts at the village level. Strengthening the capacity of village officials, increasing community participation, simplifying regulations, increasing the number of facilitators, and strengthening internal and external oversight mechanisms are urgently needed to strengthen the Village Fund corruption prevention system in a sustainable manner.

3. Effective Strategies That Can Be Implemented to Strengthen the Role of Village Fans in Preventing Village Fund Corruption

The results of field research in Praya Barat Daya District show that the strategy of strengthening the role of Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption is not only understood as a theoretical concept, but has been translated into concrete practice through various forms of intervention carried out directly at the village level. Prevention Strategy through Education and Capacity Building

A. Strengthening the Capacity of Village Apparatus

The research results show that capacity building for village officials is not solely aimed at village heads and village officials who handle financial administration. These activities also target Village Consultative Body (BPD) members, village community organization administrators, development activity managers, and community members involved in overseeing the use of Village Funds. This approach aims to build a shared understanding of Village Fund governance, thereby creating a more effective oversight mechanism.^[17]

Field findings indicate that the strategy of strengthening the capacity of village officials is seen as the most realistic and sustainable step in strengthening the role of Village Facilitators. Capacity building not only improves the quality of village government services but also strengthens the corruption prevention system by increasing competence, compliance with regulations, and the ability to account for the use of Village Funds in a transparent and accountable manner.

B. Improving Legal Literacy

Research findings also indicate that increased legal literacy has an impact on the quality of village governance. Village

¹⁷ Interview with Nasuhi, SE, Member of the BPD of Darek Village, April 26, 2026

officials have a better understanding of financial management procedures, are more disciplined in preparing administrative documents, and are more careful in implementing development activities funded by Village Funds. These changes contribute to strengthening accountability and transparency in village governance.

Research results show that improving legal literacy has been a key strategy deemed effective in strengthening the role of Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption. Strengthening understanding of regulations can improve legal compliance among village officials, minimize the risk of administrative errors, and strengthen a corruption prevention system based on legal awareness and good governance.

C. Digitalization of Village Administration

Research findings indicate that the role of Village Facilitators is crucial in supporting the digitalization of village administration. Village Facilitators not only provide technical assistance regarding application use but also help village governments understand the benefits of digitalization as a tool for strengthening governance. This approach encourages village officials to optimally utilize technology to support transparency and accountability in Village Fund management.^[18]

The Crime Prevention Theory perspective explains that crime prevention can be achieved by reducing the factors that allow for irregularities to occur. Digital administration systems serve as a preventative measure by reducing the scope for document manipulation, strengthening oversight systems, and increasing the traceability of every Village Fund management activity. This contributes to reducing the opportunity for corruption before it enters the realm of law enforcement.^[19]

Research findings demonstrate that digitalization of village administration is not simply a technological innovation, but rather part of an institutional strategy that significantly impacts the prevention of Village Fund corruption. Strengthening technology-based administrative systems, increasing the capacity of village officials, and providing ongoing support are crucial factors in ensuring that the benefits of digitalization are optimally realized in realizing transparent, accountable, and corruption-free village governance.

D. Strengthening Community Supervision

Analysis of the research results shows that strengthening community oversight is a strategy that has a direct impact on preventing Village Fund corruption. Citizen participation, strengthening the function of the Village Consultative Body (BPD), public information transparency, effective complaint mechanisms, and the development of community-based social control create a stronger oversight environment for Village Fund management. These conditions not only strengthen village government accountability but also support the realization of transparent, participatory, and integrated village governance.

E. Optimizing the Use of the Village Financial System (Siskeudes)

The analysis of the research results shows that optimizing the use of the Village Finance System (Siskeudes) is a strategy that has a significant influence in strengthening the role of Village Facilitators as actors in preventing Village Fund corruption. Increased accountability, ease of monitoring and auditing, reduction of administrative errors, and strengthening of the oversight system make Siskeudes a crucial instrument in realizing transparent, orderly, and integrated village financial governance. Strengthening the capacity of village officials and supporting technological infrastructure are crucial factors in ensuring the system's benefits can be optimally realized in village governance practices.

F. Strengthening Coordination Between Supervisory Institutions

Analysis of the research results shows that strengthening coordination between supervisory institutions is a crucial strategy in strengthening the role of Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption. Synergy between Village Facilitators, the Village Government, the Village Consultative Body (BPD), the Sub-district, the Regional Development Planning Agency (DPMPD), the Inspectorate, law enforcement officials, and the community creates a more comprehensive, responsive, and effective oversight system. Collaborative working relationships enable early identification of potential irregularities, allowing preventative measures to be taken before they cause financial losses to the village or the community.

G. Increasing the Number of Village Companions

The research results show that informants consistently prioritized strengthening the capacity of village officials as a primary strategy for preventing Village Fund corruption. This view emerged because most of the problems encountered during the planning, implementation, and budget accountability stages stemmed from village officials' limited understanding of public financial governance. This situation led to various administrative errors that could potentially escalate into legal violations if not promptly addressed.

The Crime Prevention Theory perspective positions capacity building as a form of *primary prevention*, a prevention strategy aimed at eliminating the factors that cause crime before unlawful acts occur. Steven P. Lab explains that primary prevention focuses on strengthening individuals and the social environment to prevent conditions that encourage crime.^[20] Good village apparatus capacity will minimize the possibility of irregularities because each stage of budget management is carried out based on a correct understanding of applicable regulations.

Research findings show that improving legal literacy is also seen as a crucial strategy in supporting the prevention of Village Fund corruption. The complexity of regulations governing Village Fund management often makes it difficult for village officials to understand their legal obligations. This creates room for error that can be exploited to commit irregularities or lead to administrative violations with legal

¹⁸ Interview with Kasiran, S.Adm., Village Companion, Praya Barat Daya District, March 19, 2026

¹⁹ Steven P. Lab, *Op.Cit.*, p. 15–18

²⁰ Steven P. Lab, *Op.Cit.*, p. 33–39

consequences.^[21]

The overall analysis shows that strategies to strengthen the capacity of village officials, improve legal literacy, digitize administration, optimize the Village Financial Management System (Siskeudes), strengthen community oversight, and coordinate between supervisory institutions are concrete examples of the application of Crime Prevention Theory in Village Fund management. All of these strategies are oriented towards reducing corruption risk factors through a preventive approach implemented before violations occur. This approach is more effective than mitigation strategies that rely solely on law enforcement after state financial losses have occurred. The research findings demonstrate that preventing Village Fund corruption requires the development of a system capable of increasing capacity, strengthening oversight, reducing opportunities for irregularities, and fostering a culture of sustainable legal compliance.

4. Closing

4.1. Conclusion

This study shows that Village Facilitators have a strategic role in preventing Village Fund corruption in Praya Barat Daya District as mandated in the Regulation of the Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2025 concerning General Guidelines for Village Community Assistance.

- A. The actions taken include assistance in the preparation of the RPJMDes and RKPDes, assistance in the preparation of the APBDes, verification of activity administration, education on Village Fund management regulations, facilitation of Village Deliberations, assistance in the preparation of accountability reports, coordination with the village government, BPD, and the community, and monitoring physical development and community empowerment. All of these actions not only function as administrative activities, but also serve as preventive instruments that strengthen transparency, participation, accountability, oversight, and reduce the opportunity for misappropriation of Village Funds.
- B. The obstacles faced by Village Facilitators in preventing Village Fund corruption stem from institutional factors, human resources, legal culture, and the oversight system. Low capacity of village officials, high turnover of village officials, weak community participation, the breadth of the assistance area, the limited number of Village Facilitators, regulatory complexity, and the strong culture of patronage and familial ties are the main obstacles in implementing the assistance function. These conditions have the potential to reduce the effectiveness of supervision, weaken accountability, and open up space for abuse of authority in Village Fund management.
- C. Strategies deemed effective for strengthening the role of Village Facilitators include strengthening the capacity of village officials, increasing legal literacy, digitizing village administration, strengthening community oversight, optimizing the use of the Village Financial Management System (Siskeudes), strengthening coordination between supervisory agencies, and increasing the number of Village Facilitators. These strategies align with the principles of Crime Prevention Theory. *Control Theory*, *Opportunity Theory*, because it

is able to strengthen the corruption prevention system through increasing capacity, participatory supervision, legal compliance, transparency, and reducing the opportunity for misappropriation of Village Funds.

4.2. Suggestion

1. The Central Lombok Regency Government needs to strengthen its capacity building program for village officials and Village Facilitators through ongoing training related to village financial management, Village Fund regulations, and the use of information technology in village government administration.
2. The Ministry of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions together with local governments need to evaluate the ratio of the number of Village Facilitators to assisted villages in order to increase the effectiveness of guidance and supervision in the field.
3. Village governments and BPDs need to expand community involvement in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of Village Funds by increasing the transparency of public information and strengthening public complaint mechanisms.

Further research is expected to examine the effectiveness of village assistance from the perspective of public policy evaluation or conduct comparative studies between regions to obtain a more comprehensive and sustainable model for preventing Village Fund corruption.

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