

## Implementation of Regional Spatial Planning Policy in Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in North Kolaka Regency

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### Abstract

The aim of this research is to describe and analyze: 1). Implementation of Regional Spatial Planning Policy in Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in North Kolaka Regency, as seen from: a) Interests affected; b) Benefit Type; c) Degree of Change; d) Program Implementer; and e) Technical Difficulties. 2) Factors that become obstacles in implementing the Regional Spatial Planning Policy in the Sustainable Development of the Mining Sector in North Kolaka Regency, which include: a) Geographical conditions; and b) Role of Program Implementer. The research was carried out through a) qualitative approach, using the interactive model data analysis method developed by Miles and Huberman. The research results show that: The implementation of regional spatial planning policies in the sustainable development of the mining sector has not gone well, where existing regional spatial planning products have not yet fully become regulations that can regulate the use of environmentally based mining management. Mining management needs to be structured and controlled through a sound policy, so that it can improve the natural physical environment before and after mining and create a sense of justice. Implementation also influences the behavior of stakeholders, in this case the regional government of North Kolaka Regency and the Central Government. Technical implementation is carried out by the Public Works and Spatial Planning Department. The development of the mining sector has become the goal of spatial planning development which is formulated in the formulation of spatial planning policies and strategies which will be valid for the next 20 years to become the leading sector of the regional economy of North Kolaka Regency.

**Keywords:** Spatial Planning Policy; Sustainable Development; Mining Sector; Governance

### INTRODUCTION

The implementation of regional spatial planning policies is crucial in ensuring sustainable development, particularly in sectors such as mining, which pose significant environmental and economic challenges. (Acosta, 2013) Proper spatial planning can help mitigate the adverse effects of mining on the environment while also ensuring that the economic benefits are maximized for local communities (Camagni, 2017). In the context of North Kolaka Regency, these policies are essential for responsibly managing mining activities to strike a balance between development and sustainability. The current research aims to analyze how effectively these policies are being implemented in the region.

One of the core aspects of this research is to explore how regional spatial planning policies impact the sustainable development of the mining sector (Caselli, & Michaels, 2013). The study focuses on several key elements, including the interests affected by the policy, the types of benefits derived, the degree of change induced, the roles of those implementing the programs, and the technical difficulties encountered. These factors collectively shape the success or failure of policy

implementation, determining whether the mining sector can grow in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.

The research also highlights various challenges in policy implementation. One of the primary obstacles is the geographical condition of North Kolaka, which complicates the enforcement of spatial planning laws. The region's varied terrain and natural features can make it difficult to regulate mining activities effectively. Additionally, the study identifies technical difficulties that further hinder the application of spatial policies, particularly in adapting these regulations to the unique characteristics of the local environment.

Another critical factor is the role of program implementers in ensuring the success of spatial planning policies. The local government's capacity to enforce and monitor these policies plays a significant part in their effectiveness. If the regional authorities lack the necessary resources, training, or commitment, the policies may not be implemented as intended. This research explores how well the local and central governments coordinate to address these challenges and ensure that the goals of sustainable mining development are met.

Furthermore, the study delves into the types of benefits expected from the proper implementation of spatial planning policies. These benefits extend beyond economic gains, encompassing improvements in environmental management and the equitable distribution of resources. Effective policy implementation can enhance the natural physical environment before and after mining operations, promoting long-term sustainability and creating a sense of fairness among stakeholders.

In conclusion, the research provides a comprehensive analysis of the factors that influence the success of regional spatial planning policies in North Kolaka Regency's mining sector. By examining the interests affected, the challenges faced by implementers, and the types of benefits expected, the study offers insights into how these policies can be better structured to achieve sustainable development. Overcoming the identified obstacles will require improved coordination, better technical capacity, and stronger commitment from all stakeholders involved.

## **METHODS**

This research employs a qualitative methodology, where data is gathered through a combination of interviews, observations, and document analysis (Nadin, 2007). These methods allow for a deep understanding of the context and nuances of the subject matter. The data analysis is conducted using the interactive model developed by Miles and Huberman, which is structured into three key phases: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. This systematic approach ensures that large volumes of qualitative data are distilled into meaningful insights, enabling the researcher to identify patterns and draw well-supported conclusions.

The study specifically targets key stakeholders involved in spatial planning and the mining sector. This includes both the regional and central governments, as they play crucial roles in the formulation and enforcement of policies. Additionally, particular attention is given to the technical responsibilities of the Public Works and Spatial Planning Department, which is tasked with implementing these policies on the ground. Their involvement is essential in understanding the practical challenges of policy execution, particularly in relation to sustainable development in the mining sector.

## RESULTS

The findings reveal that the implementation of regional spatial planning policies for sustainable development in the mining sector of North Kolaka Regency has been less than fully effective. The current spatial planning frameworks have not yet been adequately integrated into regulatory mechanisms that can control mining activities in an environmentally sustainable manner. This lack of alignment between policy and regulation has resulted in insufficient oversight of mining operations, contributing to ongoing environmental challenges.

Moreover, the implementation of these policies has had a noticeable impact on stakeholder behavior, especially that of the regional and central governments. Both entities have yet to fully align their strategic objectives with the overarching goals of sustainable development. This misalignment suggests a gap between policy formulation and its practical application, where the interests of various stakeholders are not consistently focused on environmental sustainability. As a result, the effectiveness of policy enforcement remains limited, and the long-term benefits of sustainable mining development are not being realized.

Additionally, technical challenges have further complicated the implementation of these spatial planning policies. One of the primary difficulties is the lack of sufficient resources and expertise necessary to manage the region's complex geographical conditions. These limitations have hindered the ability of local authorities to enforce regulations effectively, particularly in remote or environmentally sensitive areas where mining operations are concentrated. Addressing these challenges will require both improved technical capacity and a more coordinated approach among government entities to ensure that spatial planning policies can achieve their intended outcomes.

## DISCUSSION

The findings underscore the critical need for well-structured and regulated mining management policies to ensure that environmental sustainability and equitable resource usage are achieved. Without a clear regulatory framework, the long-term objectives of spatial planning, which are often designed to guide development over decades, cannot be effectively realized. This gap between policy intent and implementation results in unsustainable mining practices that harm the environment and fail to promote fairness in resource distribution.

Spatial planning, while intended to serve as a guiding tool for sustainable development over a 20-year horizon, has been hampered by the absence of clear, enforceable regulations. The lack of regulatory mechanisms undermines efforts to manage mining activities in a manner that is both environmentally responsible and aligned with the long-term development goals of the region. As a result, key goals such as environmental protection, resource conservation, and equitable development remain unmet.

The role of the Public Works and Spatial Planning Department is pivotal in driving the execution of these policies. However, there are significant challenges in translating these plans into action. Technical difficulties, such as inadequate resources, limited expertise, and logistical issues, have hampered the department's ability to implement spatial plans effectively. Furthermore, discrepancies between regional and central government authorities have led to fragmented efforts, making it difficult to synchronize objectives and enforce regulations uniformly across the region.

Addressing these issues will require enhanced coordination between regional and central authorities. Improved communication and collaboration are necessary to align their respective goals, ensuring that both levels of government are working toward the same sustainable

development objectives. A unified approach will help mitigate the current fragmentation and enable more cohesive policy enforcement.

In addition to better coordination, building technical capacity is essential to overcoming the challenges faced in mining management. This includes investing in training for local authorities and providing them with the tools and resources they need to effectively monitor and regulate mining activities. With stronger technical expertise, local governments will be better equipped to manage complex geographical conditions and enforce environmentally sustainable practices.

Ultimately, the integration of sustainable practices into mining management is key to achieving both environmental protection and economic development. By embedding sustainability into the regulatory framework and ensuring that all stakeholders are committed to these principles, the region can move toward a more balanced and fair approach to resource management, benefiting both the environment and local communities in the long term.

## CONCLUSION

The implementation of regional spatial planning policy for sustainable development in the mining sector of North Kolaka Regency requires substantial improvement. A well-defined and enforceable regulatory framework is critical to effectively manage both the environmental and economic impacts of mining activities. Currently, the absence of clear regulations undermines efforts to control harmful environmental effects and ensure that economic benefits are equitably distributed. Establishing such a framework is a necessary first step toward ensuring that mining practices are sustainable and aligned with the broader goals of regional development.

Addressing the unique geographical challenges of North Kolaka is also essential for successful policy implementation. The region's varied terrain poses difficulties in enforcing spatial planning regulations, particularly in remote or environmentally sensitive areas. Furthermore, strengthening the role of program implementers—those responsible for applying and monitoring these policies—is key to achieving the long-term objectives of spatial planning. By enhancing the capacity of local authorities and ensuring better coordination with central government agencies, the region can work toward more effective and sustainable management of its mining sector.

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