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Effectiveness Of Sustainable Development Management In Boost Regional Competitiveness

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Abstract

Sustainable development is a strategic approach to improving the quality of regional development through a balance between economic growth, social welfare, and environmental sustainability. Facing increasingly complex interregional competition, regional governments are required to have effective development management to optimize regional potential and increase competitiveness in a sustainable manner. This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of sustainable development management in promoting regional competitiveness through aspects of development planning, governance, resource management, improving the quality of human resources, innovation, and collaboration between stakeholders. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a library research method. Research data were obtained through a review of various scientific literature, books, journals, and policy documents related to sustainable development management and regional competitiveness. Data analysis was carried out through the stages of data condensation, data presentation, and drawing conclusions to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the effectiveness of sustainable development management and increasing regional competitiveness. The results of the study indicate that the effectiveness of sustainable development management plays a significant role in increasing regional competitiveness. Data-based development planning, the application of good governance principles, sustainable resource management, improving the quality of human resources, and strengthening innovation and collaboration have proven to be key factors in creating competitive regional development. Regional governments that are able to integrate economic, social, and environmental aspects into development policies will have greater

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capacity to increase productivity, attract investment, and create sustainable community welfare.

Keywords: Development Management, Sustainable Development, Regional Competitiveness

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development has become a key paradigm in development policies in various countries, including Indonesia, as an effort to achieve a balance between economic growth , environmental conservation, and social welfare. This concept has received increasing attention since the United Nations (UN) established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 as a global development agenda until 2030. In the context of regional development, the application of sustainable development principles not only aims to improve the quality of life of the community but also strengthen regional competitiveness through efficient, innovative, and long-term resource management (Purnami & Suci, 2026) . Regional governments are required to be able to integrate economic, social, environmental, and governance aspects into every development policy to create inclusive and sustainable growth. As competition between regions increases in attracting investment, developing leading sectors, and improving the quality of public services, the effectiveness of sustainable development management has become a strategic factor determining the success of regional development. Therefore, strengthening the development planning, implementation, control, and evaluation systems is an urgent need so that regional development can produce sustainable benefits for all stakeholders (Agustin & Putri, 2026) .

Indonesia itself faces quite complex challenges in implementing sustainable development at the regional level. There are still development gaps between regions, disparities in infrastructure quality, low local economic productivity, environmental degradation, and limited institutional capacity of local governments. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), regional economic growth shows significant variation across provinces, while the Human Development Index (HDI) and environmental quality indicators are also uneven. Furthermore, a report from the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas) on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) shows that several SDG targets still face various obstacles, particularly in aspects of reducing inequality, protecting the environment, and strengthening institutions. These conditions demonstrate that development success is not only measured by

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economic growth alone, but also by the ability of local governments to manage development effectively, efficiently, transparently, and sustainably. Therefore, effective development management is a crucial foundation for improving the quality of development while strengthening regional competitiveness at the national and global levels. (Octivaningsih et al., 2025) .

Regional competitiveness is the ability of a region to create added value through resource utilization, increased productivity, innovation, human resource quality, and good governance. Regions with high competitiveness tend to be able to attract investment, create jobs, increase community income, and accelerate sustainable economic growth. However, achieving this competitiveness cannot be separated from the quality of development management implemented by the regional government (Purbandono, 2025).

Data-based development planning, targeted budget allocation, inter-agency coordination, community participation, and effective program monitoring are important factors in ensuring development success. In the current era of globalization and digitalization, regional governments are also required to be able to utilize information technology in the planning, monitoring, and evaluation processes of development so that the resulting policies are more responsive to community needs and are able to improve the efficiency of public services (Judijanto et al., 2025).

The implementation of sustainable development also requires strong collaboration between the government, the private sector, academia, the community, and various other stakeholders. This collaborative approach is increasingly important given the complexity of development challenges that cannot be solved by the government alone. The concept of collaborative governance provides space for all development actors to participate in policy formulation, program implementation, and evaluation of development outcomes. Through effective synergy, various regional potentials can be optimally developed without neglecting environmental sustainability and social justice. Furthermore, the application of the principles of transparency, accountability, innovation, and the use of digital technology in governance will increase public trust in local governments while strengthening the effectiveness of sustainable development implementation. Thus, development is not only oriented towards achieving short-term targets but also able to create long-term economic, social, and environmental resilience (Winanto & Ramdhan, 2024) .

Various previous studies have shown that the effectiveness of development management is closely related to increasing regional competitiveness. Quality development planning, good governance, quality public services, regional innovation, and

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sustainable resource management have been proven to positively contribute to regional economic growth and improved community welfare (Dahnelia et al., 2025) . However, various challenges remain in its implementation, such as weak coordination between regional government agencies, limited staff capacity, low-quality development data, policy inconsistencies, and minimal performance indicator-based evaluation. These conditions have prevented various development programs from optimally impacting regional competitiveness. Therefore, a more comprehensive study is needed on how the effectiveness of sustainable development management can be optimized through strengthening governance, policy innovation, community participation, and the use of information technology in the regional development process. (Wahyudi et al., 2025).

Based on the above description, research on the Effectiveness of Sustainable Development Management in Encouraging Regional Competitiveness is highly relevant to conduct. This research aims to analyze how the application of sustainable development principles in the regional development management process can increase regional competitiveness through strengthening governance, efficient resource management, improving the quality of public services, development innovation, and collaboration between stakeholders. The research results are expected to provide theoretical contributions to the development of development management and public administration science, while also providing practical recommendations for local governments in formulating more effective, inclusive, adaptive, and sustainable development policies. Thus, regional development is not only able to achieve high economic growth, but also create equitable community welfare, maintain environmental sustainability, and increase regional competitiveness in a sustainable manner at the national and international levels.

METHODE

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive research type, which aims to analyze the effectiveness of sustainable development management in promoting regional competitiveness. The qualitative approach was chosen because it can provide a deep understanding of the planning, implementation, control, and evaluation processes of sustainable development implemented by local governments. The data used in this study are secondary data obtained through library research, including books, scientific articles, national and international journals, government policy documents, reports from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, and various other literature relevant to sustainable development, development management, and regional competitiveness.

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Data collection techniques were conducted through systematic documentation and literature review of various credible scientific sources. Data analysis used the interactive model of Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña (2014), which includes three stages: data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. Data validity was maintained through source triangulation, which compares information from various scientific references and official documents to obtain objective and accountable analysis results. The analysis results were then interpreted to explain the relationship between the effectiveness of sustainable development management and increased regional competitiveness and provide recommendations for the formulation of more effective, inclusive, and sustainable development policies.

RESULT

The Effectiveness of Sustainable Development Planning in Increasing Regional Competitiveness

The research results show that the effectiveness of sustainable development planning is a key factor in determining the success of increasing regional competitiveness. Systematic, data-driven development planning that accommodates economic, social, and environmental aspects can produce more targeted policies. Local governments that implement sustainable development principles focus not only on short-term economic growth but also on the sustainability of natural resources, improving the quality of life for the community, and equitable distribution of development outcomes. Integrated planning also allows for synchronization between central and local government policies, resulting in more effective implementation of development programs.

In practice, planning effectiveness is heavily influenced by the quality of development data, the capacity of government officials, and the involvement of various stakeholders. Developing planning documents such as the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJPD), Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD), Regional Work Plan (RKPD), and Regional Work Unit (OPD) Strategic Plan (Renstra) based on community needs can produce more realistic development priorities aligned with regional potential. Furthermore, the use of measurable performance indicators facilitates the government's evaluation of development achievements (Aulia et al., 2025) .

This discussion aligns with the opinion of (Akhirun & Zees, 2025) , who stated that regional development planning is a systematic policy-making process to effectively achieve development goals. Similarly, (Jahudin et al., 2025) emphasized that quality

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planning will increase the efficiency of resource use and strengthen regional economic competitiveness. Therefore, effective sustainable development planning is the primary foundation for creating competitive and sustainable regional development.

Implementation of Good Governance

The research results show that the application of good governance principles significantly contributes to the effectiveness of sustainable development management. Good governance is reflected in transparency, accountability, public participation, bureaucratic effectiveness, legal certainty, and government responsiveness to public needs. Local governments that implement these principles are able to improve the quality of public services, accelerate the implementation of development programs, and build public trust in governance.

The implementation of electronic government systems (e-government) has increased administrative efficiency and accelerated decision-making. Digitizing public services makes it easier for citizens to access government services, increases transparency in budget use, and strengthens oversight of development implementation. Furthermore, internal and external oversight mechanisms promote a cleaner and more accountable government.

According to Siagian (2008), development success is greatly influenced by the quality of government management in managing organizations, resources, and decision-making processes. Meanwhile, Bryant and White (1987) explain that effective development requires strong coordination between government organizations and active community participation. Therefore, the implementation of good governance is a key factor in increasing regional competitiveness through professional and integrated governance.

Resource Management and Environmental Sustainability

Research results show that sustainable natural resource management has a positive impact on increasing regional competitiveness. Regions that maintain a balance between resource exploitation and environmental preservation have a greater opportunity to achieve stable economic development. Good environmental management can also reduce disaster risk, maintain ecosystem quality, increase productivity in the agricultural and tourism sectors, and support sustainable investment.

The implementation of sustainable development encourages local governments to develop policies on environmental conservation, waste management, renewable energy

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use, forest rehabilitation, and pollution control. These policies not only provide ecological benefits but also enhance the region's image as an investment-friendly region committed to sustainable development.

Siswoyo et al. (2025) explain that sustainable development must maintain a balance between economic growth and environmental preservation. Alisjahbana and Murniningtyas (2018) also emphasize that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can only be achieved if all development policies consider the environmental dimension as an integral part of national and regional development (Regency et al., 2021).

Improving the Quality of Human Resources as a Competitiveness Factor

Research results show that the quality of human resources is a key determinant of regional competitiveness. Regions with high levels of education, strong workforce skills, and access to adequate healthcare tend to have higher economic productivity. Investment in education, training, and competency development is a crucial strategy for improving workforce quality, enabling them to adapt to technological developments and job market needs.

Beyond technical competency, human resource development also encompasses character development, work ethic, creativity, innovation, and digital literacy. Local governments play a crucial role in providing industry-driven training programs, strengthening collaboration with universities and the business world, and expanding access to quality education. These efforts will produce a more competitive workforce, thereby increasing regional productivity (Nurhikmahyanti, 2024) .

Kuncoro (2018) stated that the quality of human resources is the primary capital for regional economic development. Meanwhile, Adisasmita (2013) emphasized that competitive regional development requires long-term investment in human resource development as the primary driver of economic growth.

Innovation and Collaboration as Supporters of Sustainable Development

Research results show that innovation and collaboration between stakeholders are increasingly important factors in improving the effectiveness of sustainable development management. Local governments that are able to develop innovative policies, utilize digital technology, and build partnerships with the private sector, universities, and communities are better able to address development challenges. This collaboration

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accelerates the resolution of various development problems through the joint utilization of resources.

Public service innovation, digitalization of government administration, development of the creative economy, and strengthening of the investment ecosystem can increase development efficiency while creating new economic opportunities. Furthermore, community involvement in development planning, implementation, and evaluation strengthens a sense of ownership of government programs, thereby ensuring sustainable development (H. Gunawan et al., 2026) .

Bryant and White (1987) explain that development success is determined not only by government capacity but also by the ability to build partnerships with various development actors. Therefore, innovation and collaboration are strategic elements in creating adaptive, inclusive, and highly competitive regional development amidst global economic dynamics.

Implications of the Effectiveness of Sustainable Development Management on Regional Competitiveness

Overall, the research results indicate that effective sustainable development management has a positive impact on increasing regional competitiveness. Quality planning, good governance, sustainable resource management, human resource development, and innovation and collaboration among stakeholders are interrelated components in creating sustainable regional development. Regions that are able to integrate all these components tend to have more stable economic growth, better public services, a more protected environment, and a higher level of community well-being.

These findings indicate that increasing regional competitiveness cannot be achieved solely through physical development or increased investment, but rather requires an effective, participatory, and long-term development management system (Mokodongan et al., 2025) . Therefore, local governments need to strengthen institutional capacity, improve the quality of evidence-based planning, optimize the use of digital technology, and expand collaboration with various stakeholders so that sustainable development can provide tangible benefits to the community while strengthening the region's position in national and global competition (Ammar et al., 2024) .

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CONCLUSION

The effectiveness of sustainable development management is a crucial factor in driving increased regional competitiveness. Research shows that development success depends not only on the magnitude of economic growth but also on the ability of local governments to manage the development process in a planned, integrated manner, and oriented towards sustainability principles. Data-driven development planning, consistent policy implementation, the application of good governance, and an effective monitoring and evaluation system have been proven to improve the quality of regional development. Furthermore, natural resource management that takes environmental sustainability into account and the development of quality human resources is a crucial foundation for creating inclusive and sustainable development.

This study also found that increasing regional competitiveness is significantly influenced by the government's ability to build collaboration with various stakeholders, including the private sector, academia, the public, and community organizations. Innovation in public services, the use of digital technology, strengthening institutional capacity, and community participation in the development process can increase the effectiveness of development program implementation. This synergy between stakeholders results in policies that are more responsive to community needs, increase the efficiency of resource use, and strengthen the region's ability to attract investment, develop local economic potential, and improve the quality of public services.

Based on these findings, it can be concluded that effective sustainable development management plays a strategic role in sustainably enhancing regional competitiveness. Therefore, regional governments need to continuously strengthen the quality of evidence-based development planning, enhance the professionalism of their apparatus, expand the application of innovation and digital transformation, and integrate sustainable development principles into all policy formulation and implementation processes. With these steps, regional development is expected to generate inclusive economic growth, maintain environmental sustainability, improve community welfare, and strengthen regional competitiveness at the national and international levels.

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