

## Achieving SDGs Targets as a Basis for Economic Area Development in Bone Bolango Regency

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**Abstract.** *The relatively high potential for natural wealth has apparently not been able to overcome the problem of poverty in the Bone Bolango area. The problem of poverty does not only occur in Bone Bolango district but is still a national problem. This research aims to determine the achievement of SDGs targets as the basis for economic development in Bone Bolango Regency. This research is a quantitative descriptive study that uses expert respondents who are related to or know directly the SDGs achievement indicators for Bone Bolango district. Data analysis uses procedure hierarchy analysis (AHP) using expert choice 11 software. The results of the research show that there are six indicators that are problems in Bone Bolango district based on the SDGs achievement categories. Based on the results of the analysis of the answers given by respondents, the values obtained based on importance are: 1) eliminating extreme poverty (0.368), 2) reducing the percentage of poverty (0.240), 3) reducing the percentage of poverty based on gender and age (0.223), 4) increasing the proportion of women in parliament (0.075), 5) increasing GDP per capita (0.054), and 6) increasing the tax to GDP ratio (0.040). Achieving the SDGs indicator targets which is a problem in Bone Bolango Regency requires support, so there are five aspects assessed in this research, namely regulatory support, RPJMD priorities, institutional support, budget support and partnerships.*

**Keywords:** *AHP, Bone Bolango, Poverty, RPJMD, SDGs.*

### INTRODUCTION

According to the International Hydrographic Organization, Tomini Bay is a body of water that is part of the East Indian archipelago on the island of Sulawesi. The area of Tomini Bay is around 6 million hectares with semi-enclosed waters in direct contact with three provinces, namely North Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi and Gorontalo. Efforts to accelerate development to improve the welfare of the people in the Tomini Bay area have apparently not been able to reduce the poverty rate in this area to below 10%.

This is proven by BPS data on poverty rates in 2022, where of the 10 poorest provinces, it turns out that there are 2 provinces in the Tomini Bay area, namely Gorontalo Province ranked 5th (15.51%) and Central Sulawesi Province ranked 9th (12.30%) as the poorest province in Indonesia. However, the largest number of poor people is in Central Sulawesi Province, namely around 387.71 thousand people, compared to Gorontalo Province, which is around 187.35 thousand people in September 2022. Meanwhile, North Sulawesi

Province has a poverty rate below 10%, namely around 7.34 % in September 2022, but the number of poor people is not much different from Gorontalo Province, namely around 187.33 thousand people (Lamadi & Kadim, 2023).

The above situation makes it necessary to carry out an in-depth analysis regarding the achievement of SDGs targets in Bone Bolango Regency, as an effort to encourage the development of the economic area in the Tomini Bay area. The aim of this research is to map the problems in achieving SDGs targets in Bone Bolango Regency. This goal is in line with Indonesia's national development agenda which focuses on development achievements through the 17 SDGs goals to create a prosperous and sustainable society.

In order to support the implementation of the achievement of the national development program which is part of the achievement of the SDGs, Presidential Decree No. 59 of 2017 and Presidential Decree no. 111 of 2022 (Nauli, 2024). This Presidential Decree emphasizes that within the national development framework it is necessary and absolute to integrate SDGs indicators in regional national development planning documents. This means that efforts to develop special economic zones in the Tomini Bay area, such as in Bone Bolango Regency, need to be supported by strategic steps that are synergistic with efforts to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) as stated in the RPJMN and RPJMD of the Bone Bolango Regency government.

This research aims to map baseline data on achieving SDGs targets in the Bone Bolangoi area on the 4 SDGs pillars, namely economic, social, environmental, and law and governance pillars. The findings of this research can provide a basis for formulating a strategic plan for the development of the economic area in Bone Bolango which is in line with the target of achieving sustainable development goals. It is hoped that this research can also provide benefits to local governments as evaluation material in determining strategic policy directions according to regional potential issues in order to eradicate poverty as well as to create a prosperous society as targeted by the SDGs.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Sustainable Development Goals**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is an agenda for world countries which was set in September 2015, at the UN general assembly which is used as the Global 2030 agenda and must be implemented by all countries in the world, including Indonesia (Ferawati, 2018). SDGs are a refinement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which are more comprehensive by involving more countries, both developed and developing countries, with

universal principles, integrated between dimensions, inclusive and no one left behind, and include means of implementation.

SDGs are an international commitment that aims to improve the quality of life of society globally and sustainably (Whittingham et al., 2023). This causes the SDGs to become a reference in national and regional development, starting from the planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting stages (Dzhunushalieva & Teuber, 2024). The 17 SDGs goals both globally and nationally as stated in Presidential Decree No. 59 of 2017 are; 1) without poverty; 2) without hunger; 3) healthy and prosperous life; 4) quality education; 5) gender equality; 6) clean water and proper sanitation; 7) clean and affordable energy; 8) decent work and economic growth; 9) industry, innovation and infrastructure; 10) reduced inequality; 11) sustainable cities and settlements; 12) responsible consumption and production; 13) handling climate change; 14) ocean ecosystem; 15) land ecosystem; 16) peace, justice and strong institutions; and 17) partnerships to achieve goals.

Based on the SDGs metadata published by the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, edition 2 of 2020, the 17 SDGs goals have 124 targets and 289 indicators which are grouped into 4 (four) pillars, namely social, economic, environmental, legal and governance pillars (Handoyo et al., 2023). These four pillars are inseparable in the provincial RAD SDGs formulation, so it is necessary to study regional readiness and direction of action to implement SDGs-based programs. Analysis of each development pillar is the basis for capturing data that indicates the achievement of sustainable development goals for each region in line with the 2020-2024 RPJMN.

### **Characteristics of Bone Bolango Regency**

Bone Bolango Regency is one of the districts included in the Tomini Bay area located in Gorontalo Province which was formed based on Law Number 6 of 2003 concerning the Establishment of Bone Bolango Regency and Pohuwato Regency. The capital of Bone Bolango Regency is Suwawa. The area of Bone Bolango Regency is 1,984.54 km<sup>2</sup> or 16.24% of the area of Gorontalo Province with a population of 165,334 people.<sup>46</sup>

Bone Bolango Regency consists of 18 sub-districts, 5 sub-districts and 160 villages. The largest sub-district which reaches 489.20 km<sup>2</sup> or 24.65% of the area of the Regency is Pinogu sub-district. Meanwhile, the smallest sub-district, which is only 9.87 km<sup>2</sup> or 0.50% of the district area, is South Bulango Sub-district. Apart from that, Bone Bolango Regency has a conservation area. The first conservation area is the Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park area, which covers an area of 55.3% or 104,000. ha of the area of Bone Bolango Regency.

Second, the regional marine conservation area is the Olele waters with an area of 2,640.00 hectares (Kusuma & Yafiz, 2023).

The potential for very abundant and strategic natural wealth in Bone Bolango district as part of Tomini Bay has apparently not been able to overcome the problem of poverty in various sectors in the Tomini Bay area. The abundant and diverse wealth of natural resources in the Tomini Bay area should have great potential to improve the community's economy in overcoming poverty without abandoning local culture and wisdom. For this reason, in 2008, the Indonesian government through the State Minister for Regional Acceleration launched the Tomini Bay Regional Development Acceleration Program.

## **RESEARCH METHOD(S)**

This research is a quantitative descriptive study that uses expert respondents who are related to or know directly the SDGs achievement indicators for Bone Bolango district. Data analysis used procedural hierarchy analysis (AHP) using expert choice 11 software. Research respondents consisted of 6 experts from government agencies who were knowledgeable, had data and were willing to provide the information needed to answer the research objectives (Hena et al., 2023).

Research data consists of secondary data and primary data, secondary data comes from the RPJMD of Bone Bolango Regency and other literature related to achieving SDGs indicators in Bone Bolango Regency. Primary data was obtained through in-depth interviews with experts using validated questionnaires.

Research indicators consist of problems found in achieving the SDGs strategy in Bone Bolango Regency and aspects that support this achievement. The indicators found consist of 6 indicators, namely 1) eliminating extreme poverty, 2) reducing the percentage of poverty, 3) reducing the percentage of poverty based on gender and age, 4) increasing the proportion of women in parliament, 5) increasing GDP per capita, and 6) increasing tax to GDP ratio. Meanwhile, there are five aspects that support the achievement of SDGs targets in Bone Bolango district, namely regulatory support, RPJMD priorities, institutional support, budget support and partnerships. Data analysis uses a quantitative descriptive approach with a procedural hierarchical analysis approach to determine the importance of each indicator and the aspects that support the achievement of SDGs indicators.

## **FINDINGS AND DUSCUSSION**

Bone Bolango Regency is one of the districts that has an underprivileged population or what is called a poor population. Based on BPS data through the results of social and population census data related to the poverty line in Bone Bolango Regency, it has increased by IDR 29,378 so that the latest data for 2023 is 475,874. Regarding the number of poor people in Bone Bolango Regency, there has been a decrease of 75 people, from 2022 there will be 25,470 people to 24,720 people. As a percentage of the total population in Bone Bolango Regency, in 2023 it will be recorded at 15.51% of the total population, this number is down 0.54% compared to the previous year, namely 16.05%.

Synchronizing the regional development strategies and targets of Bone Bolango Regency with the national development goals (SDGs) requires alignment of SDGs indicators with RPJMD targets. Alignment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators with the Regional Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMD) as well as Key Performance Indicators (IKU) or Regional Performance Indicators (IKD) is an effort to ensure that the sustainable development goals set by the UN in the SDGs can be integrated and implemented effectively. effective on a regional or regional scale. This process is important to achieve harmony between national, regional and local priorities in an effort to realize sustainable development (Handrian Eko and Hendry, 2020).

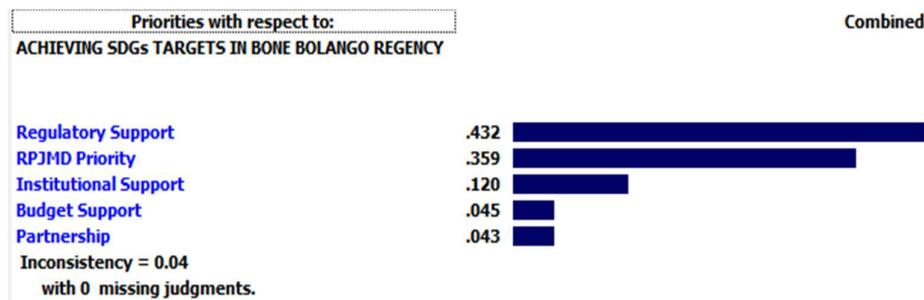
Based on the research objectives, out of a total of 23 (twenty three) indicators that can be identified by data availability, there are 6 (six) indicators that fall into categories D and E. It is important to carry out an in-depth evaluation of the factors that have caused achievements that are far from target. This involves analyzing the obstacles, challenges and shortcomings that may arise during the implementation of SDGs-related programs or policies. The first step is to identify similarities between regional development priorities in the RPJMD and the SDGs goals. At this stage, the most relevant SDGs goals are determined and can be integrated with the vision, mission and programs in the RPJMD.

### **1. Synthesis of Priority and Logical Consistency**

After identifying similarities and priorities, the next step is to determine indicators that can measure progress against the two frameworks (SDGs and RPJMD). Indicators from the RPJMD can be used as a proxy or reflect progress towards the appropriate SDGs goals (Sukamantri et al., 2021). The table above shows that of the 6 (six) SDGs indicators that require policy intervention. The indicator of the percentage of population below the poverty line is in line with the main performance indicators of the Bone Bolango Regency government. Meanwhile, the indicator for the proportion of regional taxes to GDP is not explicitly listed in

the IKU/IKD, but implicitly the regional income and tax targets are contained in the 2021-2026 RPJMD concerning Projections/Targets for Regional Income for Bone Bolango Regency for 2021-2026, and can be accommodated in the IKD - PAD ratio, with the assumption that when regional taxes or PAD increase, this will be followed by an increase in total regional income. So the analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats will outline what aspects the government needs to pay attention to in formulating strategies to encourage the achievement of these three indicators beyond what is targeted in the RPJMD and SDGs.

Determining the priority criteria for achieving SDGs is analyzed using AHP (Analytical Hierarchy Process) analysis. To process the research results, the author determined four solution steps in accordance with the basic principles of problem solving in AHP, which include: decomposition, comparative judgment, synthesis of priority, and logical consistency. The results of priority weight calculations and consistency tests were carried out using the Expert Choice 11 program. The results of the priority calculation of the SDGs achievement factor criteria can be briefly displayed in Figure 1.



**Figure 1. Priority Weights of Supporting Factors for Achieving the SDGs**

Figure 1 shows the results of the procedural hierarchy analysis (AHP) obtained by priority vector weights from the overall SDGs achievement factor criteria, namely:

1. Regulatory Support (0.432)
2. RPJMD Priority (0.359)
3. Institutional Support (0.120)
4. Budget Support (0.045)
5. Partnership (0.043)

Based on these results, the highest priority value is regulatory support. The inconsistency ratio value for the above criteria is 0.04, which indicates that the results of the Process Hierarchy Analysis (AHP) are acceptable because the inconsistency ratio value is less than 0.10 (10 percent).

From these results, several in-depth discussion points can be drawn regarding the urgency of these five factors in handling the issue of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include eliminating extreme poverty, reducing the percentage of poverty, increasing Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), increasing the proportion of women's seats in parliament, decreasing the percentage of poverty based on gender and age, and increasing the tax ratio in Bone Bolango Regency.

Regulatory support has the highest weight (0.432) and shows that regulations are important in supporting the implementation of pro-SDGs policies. Good regulations can create a conducive environment for implementing poverty alleviation programs, increasing GRDP, increasing the proportion of women's seats in parliament and increasing the tax ratio. On the other hand, establishing SDGs issues as a priority in the Regional Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMD) is also important as a form of regional government commitment and focus in achieving sustainable goals. This becomes the basis for planning and implementing policies at the local level.

Institutional support is one of the factors that is also needed to coordinate various aspects of handling SDGs issues. Institutional support can ensure good integration between sectors and efficiency in implementing programs that support the SDGs. The budget support criteria show that the financial support aspect is very crucial in handling SDGs issues. An adequate budget can be used to support anti-poverty programs, increase access to health services, and develop infrastructure that supports inclusive economic growth. Meanwhile, the criteria factor with the lowest weight (0.043), namely a partnership network involving cooperation between the government, private sector and civil society, can be pursued. Good partnerships can increase synergies and available resources to achieve SDGs goals, including increasing local taxes to support sustainable development.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **Conclusion**

Based on the research results, it was found that there are 6 indicators that should be given special attention to achieving the SDGs targets in Bone Bolango Regency, namely 1) eliminating extreme poverty, 2) reducing the percentage of poverty (0.240), 3) reducing the percentage of poverty based on gender and age (0.223), 4) increasing the proportion of women in parliament (0.075), 5) increasing GDP per capita (0.054), and 6) increasing the tax to GDP ratio (0.040). Achieving the SDGs indicator targets which is a problem in Bone Bolango Regency requires support from various aspects. In this research, five aspects were found that

can support the successful achievement of SDGs in Bone Bolango Regency, namely regulatory support, RPJMD priorities, institutional support, budget support and partnerships.

Poverty, an issue that is a top priority, namely related to eliminating extreme poverty and reducing the percentage of poverty, is a threat that is prioritized in regulatory support and institutional support. Meanwhile, increasing local taxes has great potential or opportunity from budget support and partnership factors and by focusing on RPJMD support. This analysis can be the basis for formulating strategies and policies that are more effective in achieving the priority goals that have been set.

### **Recommendation**

Based on the results and conclusions, this research recommends the following things:

1. Strengthening budget support and partnerships can increase the effectiveness of implementing policies to achieve the SDGs.
2. Budget allocations and regulations must be in line to ensure harmony in achieving development goals.
3. Adjusting priorities in the RPJMD may be necessary to ensure better integration with the SDGs achievement agenda.

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