### Analysis of the Corruption Effect and Public Governance on State Economic Performance (Case Study in Asia Pasific Countries)

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#### ABSTRACT

Corruption is a phenomenon that has received international attention. Corruption practices are very detrimental to the economic sector, accounting for 2% of world GDP or the equivalent of US1.5 - 2trillion lost every year due to corruption. The occurrence of corrupt practices is generally due to weak supervision of public officials and the complexity of the bureaucracy which opens opportunities up for corruption. Similar to corruption, the implementation of good governance in government also plays a role in the economic sector. In the global economy, the Asia Pacific region has the best economic prospects and is asked to be the engine of the global economy. But in terms of political integrity and governance, the Asia Pacific region is no better than other regions. Therefore, this study aims to examine the effect of corruption and public governance on the economic performance of Asia Pacific countries in 2004-2020. The results showed that the Corruption Perception Index, Regulatory Quality, and Political Stability had a positive effect on the economy. It is different with population growth which has a negative effect on the economy. Meanwhile, Participation and Accountability do not have a significant effect on the economy.

Keywords:Corruption,PublicGovernance,GDP,EconomicPerformance,Political Stability.

#### INTRODUCTION

In macroeconomic understanding, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is used as an indicator of economic growth. Measurement of GDP can be calculated using three (3) approaches, namely production, income, and expenditure. There are many economic and non-economic variables that affect economic growth, some of which are investment, education, labor and technology (Tambunan, 2018).

In 2019, the economies of developing Asia Pacific countries contracted to 5.8% from 6.3% (World Bank, 2019). This phenomenon is caused by geopolitical turmoil, namely the trade war between the United States and China which is increasingly heating up. The trade war causes disruption of the investment climate and international trade instability. The world Health Crisis due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 caused the economy to be further shaken. Countries in Asia Pacific are affected by the global financial recession.

The Health Crisis has an impact on economic uncertainty. (World Bank, 2020) assesses the potential for a prolonged crisis. The need for systematic policies and supervised by regulations, accompanied by the rule of law, as an effort to avoid any deviations that lead to inefficiency. Good rule of law will increase the compliance of officials and state employees in carrying out the rules (Hasthoro & Sunardi, 2016). The rule of law will prevent corrupt practices as the majority of economists think that corruption can cause sluggish industrial productivity.

Corruption is defined as a form of abuse of power (public office) for the benefit of individuals and groups, corruption includes bribery to theft of public funds (World Bank, 2020). Corruption has a multi-dimensional and very complex impact (Pluskota, 2020). On this basis, the United Nations established the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) treaty in 2003 in Mexico. Where each participating country is obliged to make the UNCAC treaty as a guideline in fighting corruption in its country (ACLC KPK, 2021).

(Lutfi et al., 2020) claim that corruption leads to production inefficiency and misallocation of resources. Corruption complicates economic development due to increased costs caused by illegal levies and the risk of canceling agreements, on the other hand he also mentions that corruption can shorten bureaucracy and facilitate licensing with bribes to officials (Nawatmi, 2016). Corruption is more prone to negative effects on the economy in authoritarian and less democratic countries (Gründler & Potrafke, 2019). As happened in Vietnam, corruption has a negative effect on the economy and leads to investment inefficiency (Truong, 2020).

(Canare, 2017) said that apart from corrupt practices, investors also consider other factors such as the quality of regulations and the rule of law in a country before investing. The quality of regulation and the rule of law is an indicator of public governance (governance). Since the emergence of endogenous growth theory, the concept of governance has become one of the important components for economic growth (Bayar, 2016). Where good institutional quality will be an accelerator for a growing economy (Daud, 2020). Institutions also eliminate distortions in the market, so transactions become more effective and efficient (Ozpolat et al., 2016).

(International Monetary Fund, 2018) states that Asia Pacific is the most dynamic region in the global economy, and has strong economic prospects. This is also supported by

Transparency International (2020) which states that Asia Pacific is asked to be the engine of the global economy, but in terms of political and governance integrity, this region is no better than other regions. These conditions make Asia Pacific an interesting topic to study.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### **Gross Domestic Product**

The existence of a GDP calculation aims to summarize all business unit activities in a country, with units of money value at certain time intervals. Every country needs to strive for a sustainable increase in GDP, to ensure the process of economic development and increase the welfare of its people.

Simon Kuznet said that the state needs to ensure the availability of economic goods for its people, encourage technological progress, and adjust institutions and ideologies, in order to encourage the state's ability to realize growth (Jhingan, 2012). To increase the acquisition of GDP, it can be done by increasing the production of goods and services (output) from year to year (Purnama, 2015). The process of increasing the economy in a country must be balanced by increasing the number of job opportunities, so that income inequality does not occur (cateris paribus), and causes an increase in poverty (Tambunan, 2018).

The general formula used to increase GDP can be written as follows: GDP = C + I + G + (X - M)

Where:

- C = Consumption
- I = Investment
- G = Government Expenditure
- X = Export
- M = Import

#### Corruption Theory

Fransisco Ramirez Torres said that there are two factors that influence a person's corrupt behavior, namely internal factors and external factors. External factors that influence are the school environment, family, country to international situations that can affect a person's corrupt behavior, while bad lifestyle factors such as gambling and addiction to alcoholic beverages affect corrupt behavior as internal factors (Yusuf & Isqiyarta, 2019). Ramirez Torres also describes an equation that can determine a person's corrupt behavior, which can be formulated as follows (Directorate General of Corrections, 2012):

Where:

Rc = Result of Corruption

Pty = Punishment

Prob = Likelihood of being detected/caught

In the Gone Theory expressed by Jack Bologne, it is said that corrupt behavior is caused by greed, opportunity, needs, and exposures (Yusuf & Isqiyarta, 2019).

- a. Greedy, the greedy and greedy nature of the perpetrators of corruption crimes.
- b. Opportunity, an opportunity that arises because the system is not controlled so that it creates opportunities to launch acts of corruption.

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- c. Needs, a natural human attitude that never feels sufficient, because human needs are endless
- d. Exposures, quality and implementation of a country's laws against convicts of corruption crimes that do not provide a deterrent effect.

In another view, it is revealed that there are 6 factors that influence a person's corrupt behavior, namely bribery, embezzlement, fraud, extortion, favoritism, and nepotism (Amundsen, 1999).

#### Public Governance

Government is a structure consisting of traditions and institutions, which have authority and power over the running of a country (World Bank, 2004). The concept of governance includes the process by which government is elected, controlled, and replaced; the government's ability to implement policies; and the compliance and respect of society, including the state, for institutions and institutions (World Bank, 2004). The term government is now starting to shift to governance, where governance emphasizes the role of government in providing public services (Edralin, 1998). In this concept there are performance improvements and improvements in the quality of public services (Keban, 2000).

According to UNDP (2004) governance is a system of values, policies, and institutions in which a society manages the economy, politics, and society through a process of interaction between the state, the private sector, and civil society. Good public governance is the key to the effectiveness of development and efforts to fight for the goals of a country (Commission of The European Communities, 2003). However, to achieve good public governance requires a gradual process, as long as the implementation of good public governance has not been realized, a pragmatic approach is needed to support the progress of a country (Commission of The European Communities, 2003).

UNDP (2004) summarizes the concept of governance into three core principles, which include:

- a. Participation and Inclusion, empowerment through representatives in government or parties that provide facilities for civil society to actively participate in decision-making mechanisms in policy formulation.
- b. Accountability and the rule of law, accountable government tends to be more effective in handling crises. In line with the importance of accountability, the existence of the rule of law is also needed as a preventive measure for potential conflicts caused by the crisis.
- c. Non-discrimination and Equality, the government must ensure that there is equality and there is no discrimination in the administration of government such as in political, economic, legal, and cultural contexts.

#### Population Growth Theory

In the theory developed by Thomas Robert Malthus, it is explained that a phenomenon of population growth needs to be balanced with food availability, therefore population growth must be supported by elements of the environment and natural resources (Dunn, 1998). Malthus argued that because of the strong attraction of the sexes, the population could double, i.e., doubling every twenty-five years. Seeing from human nature as consumers, the lust possessed by humans is unstoppable to consume.

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(Pindyck & Rubinfeld, 2013) mention that the importance of investing in including human capital, by providing education so that a person becomes more creative, has knowledge, skills and experience so that he becomes more productive and able to earn higher incomes. Human capital investment will encourage the country's economic growth, because it will provide quality human resources.

#### Previous Research

(Hasthoro & Sunardi, 2016) examines the effect of implementing governance on the financial performance of local governments throughout Indonesia, both at level I and level II governments. This study shows the results that, the participation variable, the size of the local government, and the legal culture have a significant and positive influence on regional financial performance. Meanwhile, the transparency and accountability variables have no significant effect on regional financial performance.

(Bayar, 2016) conducted a study that aims to examine the impact of 6 (six) indicators of public governance on economic growth during the economic transition in the European Union in 2002-2013. This study shows that the variables of participation and accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, legal culture, and corruption control have a significant and positive effect on economic growth in the European Union. Contrary to that, the variable quality of regulation has a positive but not significant effect on economic growth in the European Union.

(Ozpolat et al., 2016) conducted a study that aims to examine the effect of institutional effectiveness on economic growth in several countries which are grouped by high, middle, and low income. This study shows that in high-income countries, governance indicators have a significant and positive influence on economic growth. In middle-income countries, governance indicators are not significant. Meanwhile, in low-income countries, governance indicators are also not significant for economic growth.

(Lutfi et al., 2020) wrote a study aimed at studying how corruption affects economic growth. The research shows the results that only the investment variable is significantly positive for economic growth. On the other hand, the corruption variable is not significant in economic growth in ASEAN countries. Other variables such as the level of education participation, population growth, and trade openness are also not significant to economic growth.

#### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### Data Types and Sources

This research utilizes quantitative data. Quantitative data is generally data in the form of numbers. Quantitative data can also come from the transformation of qualitative data into quantitative data. This data is obtained based on measurements on a numerical scale (numbers). The data in this study were obtained through the World Bank and Transparency International databases.

#### Operational definition

a. Gross Domestic Product: the value of goods and services (total output) in a country. This data is in the form of the United States Dollar currency value, which is then transformed into logarithms.

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- b. Corruption Perception Index: an index released by Transparency International to assess public perceptions of how corrupt the government is in their country. This data is expressed in the form of an index with a range of 0 100, where the lower the index value, the worse the corruption in the country.
- c. Participation and Accountability: an index released by the World Bank to assess the extent of public participation in government and how responsible the government is in carrying out its duties. This data is expressed in the form of an index with a range of 0 100, where the lower the index value, the worse participation and accountability in the country.
- d. Regulatory Quality: an index released by the World Bank to assess the government's ability to formulate regulations that are able to encourage the private sector. This data is expressed in the form of an index with a range of 0 100, where the lower the index value, the worse the government's ability to formulate regulations.
- e. Political Stability: an index released by the World Bank to assess how political stability is in a country. This data is expressed in the form of an index with a range of 0 100, where the lower the index value, the worse the political stability in the country.
- f. Population Growth: the value of population growth in a country in one year of the calculation period. This data is expressed as a percentage (%).

#### **Research Model**

This study applies quantitative analysis by regressing panel data as an approach. In performing panel data regression, there are three approaches that can be utilized, namely the Common Effect Model (CEM), Fixed Effect Model (FEM), and Random Effect Model (REM), all three of which only have differences in the correlation between the error component and the independent variable. The basic model used in this study is written as follows:

 $LogY_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 CPI_{it} + \beta_2 VOI_{it} + \beta_3 REG_{it} + \beta_4 POL_{it} + \beta_5 POP_{it} + e_{it}$ 

Where:

- i = cross-sectional data
- t = time series data
- Y = Real Gross Domestic Product
- CPI = Corruption Perception Index
- VOI = Participation and Accountability
- REG = Regulatory Quality
- POL = Political Stability
- POP = Population Growth (%)
- e = glitches

In the common effects model test, there are no individual specific effects, meaning that it is assumed that the Z value only consists of constants. Therefore, this test is also commonly known as the constant coefficient model (Srihardianti et al., 2016). In the fixed effect model test, it is assumed that the intercept for each individual is not constant and the intercept for the time-series unit is constant, while the slope in the regression estimation model is considered constant either between cross-sectional units or between time-series units. This model is also often referred to as the Least Square Dummy Variable (LSDV) technique, because it uses the addition of a dummy variable (Srihardianti et al., 2016).

The random effect model test is used if there is no correlation between the individual effects of Z and the independent variable (Srihardianti et al., 2016). This test was conducted to select the right model as an estimation tool for the panel data regression

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model. To determine which model is right between CEM, FEM, and REM, you can use the Chow test, Hausman test, and Lagrange Multiplier test.

#### RESULTS

#### Model Fit Test

This test is carried out as an effort to determine the right model between Common Effect, Fixed Effect, and Random Effect, and then applied in estimating the panel data research model based on the results of statistical processing. The purpose of this test is to obtain accurate and efficient estimation results. In determining the right estimation model, 3 tests can be used, namely the Chow Test, Hausman Test, and the Lagrange Multiplier Test.

Table 1. Model Fit Test

Effect Test	Probabilitas
Cross-section F	0.0000
Cross-section Chi-square	0.0000
Cross-section random	0.0000
0	

Source: processed data, 2022

Based on the results of the model suitability test in Table 1. It can be seen that the results of the Chow test show a Chi-square cross-section probability of 0.0000 < 0.05, so H0 is rejected, meaning that the Fixed Effect model is better used than the Common Effect. Furthermore, the results of the Hausman test show a random cross-section probability of 0.0000 < 0.05, so H0 is rejected, meaning that the Fixed Effect model is better used than the Random Effect. Therefore, this study will use Fixed Effect as a model estimate.

#### Statistic test

Statistical tests were carried out to analyze observations and see the effects caused by the independent variable on the dependent variable in the estimation model. According to Priyono (2008), statistical tests were carried out to test hypotheses on the estimation model. The results of statistical test analysis are based on the level of significance or level of confidence expressed in percentages (Sugiyono, 2013). The level of confidence in statistical tests is probability (probability). In this study, the probability of error being adopted is 5%, or in other words this study has a 95% confidence level.

23.768 0.0234 0.0016 0.0130	166.52 7.5692 0.7045	0.0000 0.0000 0.4815	
0.0016	0.7045		
		0.4815	
0.0130	F 0077		
	5.3277	0.0000	
0.0059	3.8563	0.0001	
-14.174	-5.0584	0.0000	
Effect Specification			
-squared 0.9919		919	
	0.9913		
	1653.2		
	0.0000		
	0.0059 -14.174	0.0059 3.8563   -14.174 -5.0584   Effect Specification 0.9   0.9 0.9   0.005 0.9   0.005 0.9   0.005 0.9   0.005 0.9   0.005 0.9   0.9 0.9   0.9 0.9   0.9 0.9   0.9 0.9   0.9 0.9	

Table 2. Panel Data Regression Statistics Test

Source: processed data, 2022

#### Simultaneous Test

Based on the results of the simultaneous test in Table 2. Above, the probability value of the F-statistic is 0.00 < 0.05, meaning that there is a rejection of H0. In line with the probability value of F, the value of F-count is 1653.2 > F-table 2.12, meaning that there is a rejection of H0. So, in the estimation model, the independent variables simultaneously have a significant effect on changes in the dependent variable.

#### **Coefficient of Determination Test**

Based on the results of the coefficient of determination test in Table 2. Above, the R-Squared value is 0.9919 or 99.19%. That is, the independent variable in the model is simultaneously able to describe the dependent variable as much as 99.19%, then the remaining 0.81% is described through other variables. If based on Adj. R-Squared, obtained a value of 0.9913 or 99.13%. That is, the independent variable in the model is simultaneously able to describe the dependent variable by 99.13%, then the remaining 0.87% is described by variables outside the model.

#### Partial Test

It can be seen through the partial test output in Table 3., the Corruption Perception Index variable is able to have a significant positive effect on Real GDP, it can be seen at the probability value of t-statistics 0.0000 < 0.05 and t-count 7.5692 > t-table 1.645. Participation and Accountability variables have a positive effect on Real GDP, but not significant, it is indicated by the probability value of t-statistic 0.4815 > 0.05 and t-count value 0.7045 < t-table 1.645.

Furthermore, the Regulatory Quality variable is able to have a significant positive effect on Real GDP, which is indicated by the probability value of t-statistic 0.0000 < 0.05 and t-count 5.3277 > t-table 1.645. Political Stability variable also shows a significant positive effect on Real GDP, which can be seen in the probability value of t-statistic 0.0001 < 0.05 and t-count 3.8563 > t-table 1.645. Meanwhile, the Population Growth variable has a significant negative effect on Real GDP, where t-count is -5.0584 > t-table -1.960 and probability value is 0.0000 < 0.05.

#### DISCUSSION

In the output of the Fixed Effect model, there is a constant value (intercept) from each cross-section data, which is not constant from each individual. Thus, this model allows for changes in the intercept in different individuals. The intercept value in the regression estimation model describes a point of intersection, between a line and the Y axis on the diagram, when the value of X is 0. That is, if the variable X has no contribution to Y (X = 0), then the variable Y will have the same value. like intercepts. The following is the intercept value of each individual in the estimation model.





Source: processed data, 2022

It can be seen in the graph above, based on the output of the estimation model, the highest intercept value is owned by China, namely 4.41, it can be said that the average GDP growth in China during the study year was greater than other countries in Asia Pacific. Meanwhile, the lowest intercept value is owned by Bhutan, which is -4.69. During the study year, Bhutan had an average GDP growth that tends to decline to a negative value, this makes Bhutan the country with the lowest GDP growth rate compared to other countries during the study year. Indonesia was found to be a country with the highest GDP growth rate after China and India, this was indicated by Indonesia's intercept value of 2.24.

#### Analysis of the Influence of the Corruption Perception Index

Referring to the partial test results, it can be seen that the Corruption Perception Index has a significant and positive effect which is indicated by the coefficient value of 0.0234. So, if a country experiences an increase in the Corruption Perception Index score of 1 point, then the acquisition of Real GDP for that country will grow by 0.0234%. This indicates that the cleaner the government from corrupt practices, will encourage economic performance in the country.

As (Blackburn et al., 2005) stated that corrupt practices will result in irregularities in the distribution of resources in the economy. Thus, state activities in eradicating corruption will minimize distributional irregularities. (Nawatmi, 2016) states that the eradication of corruption as a whole will encourage sustainable economic growth. Corruption is no longer a grease of wheel for the economy (Nawatmi (2016). Some theories say that corruption will accelerate the economy by shortening the bureaucracy through bribery (Huntington, 1968). Although corruption shortens the bureaucracy, at the same time corrupt practices will hamper growth (Pluskota, 2020) Therefore, corrupt practices must be eradicated in order to spur sustainable economic growth.

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#### Analysis of the Effect of Participation and Accountability

Based on the results of the partial test, Participation and Accountability are not significant, the coefficient of Participation and Accountability is positive, namely 0.0016. This shows that if there is an increase in the government's Participation and Accountability score, it will not affect anything to the acquisition of a country's GDP. In accordance with the study of (Ozpolat et al., 2016) Participation and Accountability have no significant effect on the economy in middle and low income countries. According to (Hasthoro & Sunardi, 2016), participation encourages community involvement in the preparation of government development plans, thereby strengthening the relationship between the government and the community. In other words, participation and accountability only affect the progress of democratization and control of government performance and are not sufficient to trigger economic growth in developing countries.

#### Analysis of the Effect of Regulatory Quality

Based on the results of the partial test of Regulatory Quality, it is significant and positive with a coefficient value of 0.0130. That is, if the Regulatory Quality score increases by 1 point, the Real GDP gain in that country will grow by 0.0130%. This indicates that the better the quality of the regulations formulated by the government, the faster the country's economy will be. In line with Bayar (2016) who said that the quality of public administration has the potential to affect the economy, in order to achieve sustainable economic growth, improving the quality of public administration needs to be considered. The regulations that are drawn up will affect the investment climate of a country, which affects investors' decisions (Pindyck, 2013). That is, the quality of regulation has a vital influence on the effectiveness of the market, it also contributes to the economy of a country.

#### Analysis of the Effect of Political Stability

Based on the results of the partial political stability test, it is significant and positive with a coefficient value of 0.0059. meaning, if the Political Stability score increases by 1 point, then the acquisition of Real GDP in that country will grow by 0.0059%. This indicates that the more stable the political condition of a country, the faster the country's economy will be. Countries with unstable political conditions tend to experience slow economic growth, due to economic uncertainty caused by changes in government (Alesina et al., 1996). The change of a new government allows a change in the direction of a country's economic policy, so that local and foreign investors are not willing to invest in the country, in order to avoid the risk of loss (Alesina et al., 1996). Thus, local production will decrease. Countries that have stable politics will find it easier to get investment, so that their economy can run well.

According to (Bayar, 2016) an unstable government is prone to distortion by various political events such as changes in the cabinet structure or even a coup, which creates uncertainty in economic policy. So that political stability is one of the factors that need to be considered in order to encourage a sustainable economy.

#### Analysis of the Effect of Population Growth

Based on the results of the partial test, Population Growth affects Real GDP significantly, and is negative with a coefficient value of -14,174. That is, if the population growth rate in a country increases by 1%, then the acquisition of Real GDP for that country will decrease by 14.17%. This indicates that population growth is a problem or obstacle to a country's economy.

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Exponential growth causes an increase in cases of hunger due to insufficient food supply in a country (Malthus, 1798). This has an impact on the increasingly unequal economic conditions. Uncontrolled population growth will increase the need for more consumption than investment (Widarjono, 1999). This condition is common in many developing countries. Exploding population levels in developing countries will have implications for various social problems such as poverty and unemployment. Population growth will have a negative impact on the economy (Pluskota, 2020).

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been compiled and explained in the previous chapters, it can be concluded that the Fixed Effect model is the best model for estimating the regression in this research model. In addition, it can also be concluded that the influence of the independent variables that have been analyzed are as follows:

- a. The Corruption Perception Index positively affects Real GDP in Asia Pacific countries in the period 2004-2020. Which means, if a country is able to eradicate corruption so that there is an increase in the Corruption Perception Index score, then the acquisition of Real GDP in that country will also increase.
- b. Participation and Accountability have no effect on Real GDP in Asia Pacific countries in 2004-2020.
- c. Regulatory quality affects Real GDP in Asia Pacific countries positively in the period 2004-2020. Which means, if the government is able to formulate regulations that are able to encourage the economy so as to increase the Regulatory Quality score, then the acquisition of Real GDP in that country will also increase.
- d. Political Stability positively affects Real GDP in Asia Pacific countries in the period 2004-2020. Which means, if a country has good political stability so that the Political Stability score increases, then the acquisition of Real GDP in that country will also increase.
- e. Population Growth affects Real GDP in Asia Pacific countries negatively in the period 2004-2020. Which means, if there is an increase in the rate of Population Growth in a country, it will cause a decrease in the acquisition of Real GDP in that country.

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#### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS**

In this study, we do not have a conflict of interest from any party

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