Identifying A Sustainable Tourism Development Model for The Amungme Tribe Community at Mimika Regency Papua Province

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ABSTRACT

Amungme Tribe, residing in Mimika Regency, has important roles in developing the Papua Province's tourism sector. Up to now, this tribe has experienced various obstacles in developing its community and region. Authors conducted a qualitative-based method research to find strategies to elevate this tribe to have competitive advantages to increase its prosperity. In this research, surveys and in-depth interviews with relevant stakeholders were conducted in Timika City to generate effective strategies. Authors have designed a comprehensive approach, namely *Amungme-Based Sustainable Tourism (ABST)*, which focuses on the development of 4Rs: *Revitalization, Reconstruction, Remuneration, and Reconciliation.* Through effective and efficient applications of 4Rs, it is expected that there will be great changes for Amungme Tribe and the community of Mimika Regency.

Keywords: Amungme, Revitalization, Reconstruction, Remuneration, Reconciliation, Sustainable Tourism

INTRODUCTION

An important factor for tourism growth is the sustainability of a destination especially the environmental aspects. The sustainable tourism concept points out that physical integrity, biological diversity, resource efficiency, and environmental purity should be considered when developing a tourist destination (United Nations World Tourism Organization, 2015). Sustainable tourism also emphasizes on the importance of keeping the authenticity of local culture, traditions, and historic heritage. The uniqueness of local culture is an important factor for many tourists who appreciate the originality of tourist destinations.

Amungme Tribe, who resides in Papua Province, has been facing several obstacles in elevating its community to grow its tourism aspects. In line with this, the authors would like to propose a program called *Amungme-Based Sustainable Tourism (ABST)*, which focuses on the cultural, natural, economic, and social improvements and peace for the local people of the Amungme Tribe. This program will indeed require active involvement of the tourism stakeholders in the region, such as the government, PT Freeport Indonesia, and the local community.

To achieve the improvements, the authors introduce the 4R concept (*Revitalization, Reconstruction, Remuneration, and Reconciliation)*, which represent each of the determining factors of sustainable tourism. This concept is a bottom-up approach, which

means that the local community will act as an essential and fundamental part of every decision making process. In the long term, the 4Rs concept is expected to reform and transform the well-being of the Amungme Tribe, particularly those who actively participate in the tourism sector. Therefore, generating strategies to elevate this tribe in relation to tourism sustainability will be the main focus of this research.

Simatupang (2015) defines tourism as a social, cultural, and economic phenomenon that involves the movement of people to countries or places outside of their usual environment, whether it is for personal or business purposes. A similar definition is also presented by Suwantoro (2014), who argues that tourism is a process of people's temporary departure to another destination outside his normal residency. He points out that the urge for the departure was due to various factors, such as economic, social, cultural, political, religious, health, or other personal reasons.

The concept of sustainable development has been a popular topic since late 1960s. Sustainable tourism was brought into attention on the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 because many people considered that tourism is not a necessity but contributes significantly to CO_2 emissions. In the 21st century, the sustainable tourism concept has developed into a main concern for many organizations, particularly the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

UNWTO and UNEP (2005:11-12) define sustainable tourism as "tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities". These organizations also argue that sustainable tourism should:
1) Make optimal use of environmental resources that constitute a key element in tourism development, maintaining essential ecological processes and helping to conserve natural heritage and biodiversity,
2) Respect the socio-cultural authenticity of host communities, conserve their built and living cultural heritage and traditional values, and contribute to inter-cultural understand and tolerance.
3) Ensure viable, long-term economic operations, providing socio-economic benefits to all stakeholders that are fairly distributed, including stable employment and income-earning opportunities and social services to host communities, and contributing to poverty alleviation.

All the aspects of tourism have both positive and negative impacts towards the host destination. However, it is important to focus on minimizing the current and future negative impacts, while at the same time optimizing the positive ones.

The Cultural Aspect of Sustainable Tourism
Pitana and Diarta (2009) mention that culture has an important role in the development of tourism sector. One of the reasons why people choose to travel is to see and learn different ways of life and culture of people who live in other parts of the world. Furthermore, they describe several cultural and traditional resources that can be developed into tourist attractions, which include the following:
1) Historic sites, monuments, museums, art galleries, ancient cultural sites, etc.
2) Contemporary sculpture, architecture, textiles, craft centers, and arts, design centers, artist studios, film industries and publishers.

3) Performing arts, drama, ballet, folk songs, street theater, photo exhibitions, festivals, and other special events.
4) Religious relics, such as temples, mosques, and churches.
5) Activities and ways of life of local communities, education systems, studios, traditional technologies, ways of working, and local lifestyle.
6) Local culinary.

The difference between one culture and another can be a cause for confusion and misunderstanding, which may result in conflict. Scholtz (2014) points out that many local and traditional cultures are contaminated by modernization, and then the host community lost their traditional cultural identity. He also mentions that some traditional cultures are modified for the sake of fulfilling tourists' demands. This includes the modification of traditional dances to make it more interesting for tourist and allowing tourist to enter previously sacred sites. The degradation of traditional cultures, in the long term, causes the host destination to lose its cultural identity, especially among the younger generation.

The (Natural) Environmental Aspect of Sustainable Tourism

The environment, particularly the nature, is essential for the development of tourism. In general, tourism gradually causes the environment to deplete in the long term. People's curiosity to explore even the most remote tourism destinations leaves the planet with less pristine natural environment remaining. Some of the negative impacts of tourism towards the environment includes soil erosion, increased pollution, loss of natural habitats, and extinction of endangered species. Pitana and Diarta (2009), states that we abuse our natural environment because we regard it as a *commodity* belonging to us. When we see it as a *community* to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.

Pitana and Diarta (2009) also argue that another reason for the depletion of natural environment is mismanagement by the stakeholders. Kawatak *et al.* (2020) argue that local governments should be pro-active in managing the impacts of tourism, including in managing the natural environment. However, many governments and other institutions that should be responsible for the conservation of natural environment tend to be too permissive when it comes the establishment of tourism facilities, such as hotels, resorts, entertainment venues, and other supporting facilities. It is understandable that tourism can boost the local economy by the income generated, however, it does not mean that the natural environment has to be sacrificed.

The Economic Aspect of Sustainable Tourism

Niedziolka (2014) states that tourist destinations can be benefited by the generation of income, infrastructure improvements and creation of employment opportunity. Higher income may lead to higher spending that in the long-run can be turned into aggregate positive economic growth. Moreover, better infrastructure will benefit the local community as well as the tourists who come to visit the tourist destination. A low unemployment level also considered as a desirable impact that can improve the economic wellbeing of the local people.

Realizing the importance of tourism towards the local economy of tourism destinations, UNWTO and UNEP (2005) come up with several sustainable tourism development goals. The first goal was to achieve economic viability, where competition among tourism

related firms is maintained so they will continue to deliver benefits in the long term. The second one is related to locals' prosperity. Financial leakage should be kept low in order to retain tourists' spending in the local community. The next goal is improvement in the number and quality of jobs created, especially for the locals. This includes better salary, better working environment and equal opportunity without discrimination by gender, race, disability, etc.

The Social Aspect of Sustainable Tourism
In terms of the social aspect, tourism has both positive and negative impacts. As many tourists start crowding a tourist destination, the assimilation of different cultures and habits may lead to social conflicts. Godfrey and Clarke (2000) mention that locals may feel that tourists hinder their daily activities, for example by crowding public transportations and facilities during working hours and making noises during rest hours. In many places, Scholtz (2014) argue that tourism also results in higher crime rate, higher alcohol and drug related incidents and accidents, and an increase in numbers of prostitution and gambling.

Nevertheless, it is important to point out that local community may be socially benefited by tourism. Intercultural interaction will positively improve the social knowledge of the locals. Goeldner and Ritchie (2003) argue that tourist attractions, such as entertainment and recreational facilities, are also enjoyed by the local people.
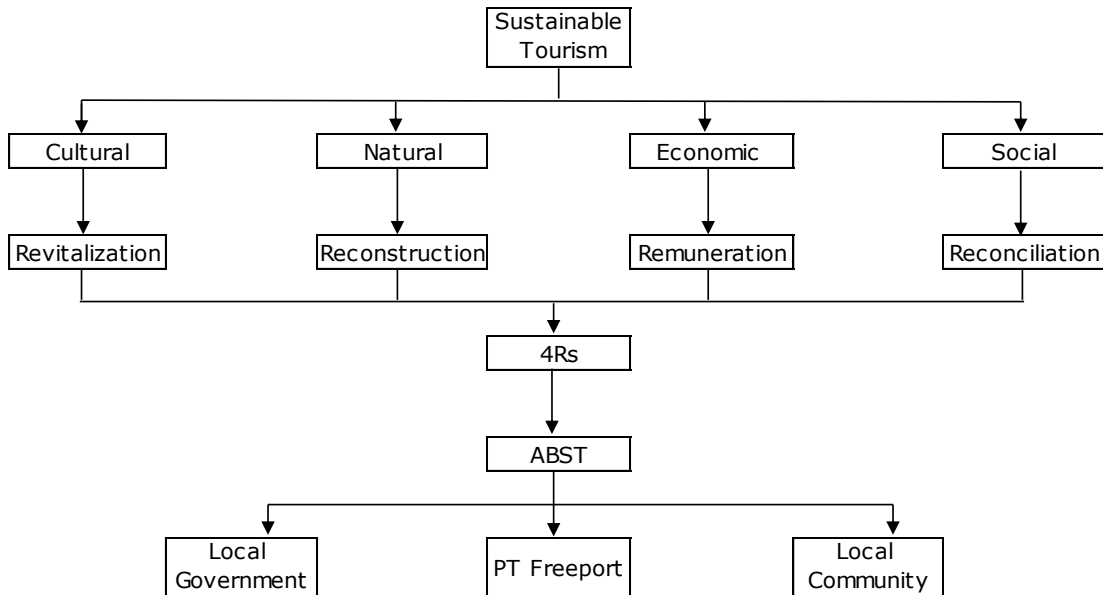
RESEARCH METHOD

Qualitative-based methodology was applied for this research. Direct visitation to the site for better observation and in-depth interview with related key people and stakeholders were conducted in Timika, Papua where the Amungme Tribe resides. This was done so that authors may get clearer insights and were able to come with strategic solutions that would be beneficial for the local community and the related tribe in particular.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the observation and interviews, the authors would like to propose a program named Amungme-Based Sustainable Tourism (ABST), which focuses on the cultural, natural, economic, and social improvements for the Amungme Tribe in implementing sustainable tourism. The members of this program are the government of Mimika Regency, PT Freeport Indonesia, and the local community. This program will run the 4Rs concept that consists of Revitalization (R1), Reconstruction (R2), Remuneration (R3), and Reconciliation (R4). Each part of this concept is related to the four aspects of sustainable tourism as shown in Chart 1.

Chart 1. Research Framework

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                          │ Sustainable │
                          │   Tourism   │
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     ┌────┴─────┐   ┌────┴────┐     ┌─────┴────┐   ┌─────┴────┐
     │ Cultural │   │ Natural │     │ Economic │   │  Social  │
     └────┬─────┘   └────┬────┘     └─────┬────┘   └─────┬────┘
 ┌────────┴──────┐ ┌─────┴────────┐ ┌─────┴──────┐ ┌─────┴────────┐
 │ Revitalization│ │Reconstruction│ │Remuneration│ │Reconciliation│
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          └──────────────┴───┬───────┴──────────────┘
                          ┌──┴──┐
                          │ 4Rs │
                          └──┬──┘
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                          │ ABST │
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          ┌──────────────┬───┴───────────┬──────────────┐
     ┌────┴─────┐   ┌────┴────┐     ┌─────┴────┐
     │  Local   │   │   PT    │     │  Local   │
     │Government │   │ Freeport│     │Community │
     └──────────┘   └─────────┘     └──────────┘
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The Application of Revitalization Concept (R1)
The objective of revitalization concept is to revitalize and create better management for all elements of local resources, which are essential for culture and tourism reservation of Amungme Tribe. Through revitalization, all lost and destroyed objects of Amungme Tribe at Mimika Regency will be revitalized since all artefacts and cultural aspects can be elevated for sustainable tourism and generate economic growth for Amungme Tribe.

Revitalisation must be done to all broken or destroyed sites, so that these so-called 'shrines' can be maintained again and become sources of history and tourist attractions. All local wisdom must be rejuvenated by having Amungme Tribe creativity touch. These can be done to several typical handcrafts such as *noken*, hunting tools, traditional shrines, and all other traditional values that have gradually gotten lost.

The revitalization does not only cover artefacts or culture itself, but also can be done to the environmental conservation, in terms of ecology and archaeology. This can be further done for social structure where the change of life style, personal characters and care have also been reduced. All revitalization processes will be done without changing and destroying the host community's culture, local wisdom, and dignity as well as ruining the existing natural resources. The revitalization must generate positive returns to the Amungme community as addressing the values of humanity to Amungme Tribe.

The Application of Reconstruction Concept (R2)
Reconstruction is the act of re-building and fixing something to have something be better in quality and quantity. In this case, the reconstruction will surely be addressed to the Amungme Tribe. Therefore, the main objective of reconstruction is to remanage and rebuild all sites and other shrines of Amungme Tribe, so that they will look as they used to be in the past. In line with this, the issue of reconstruction at Amungme Tribe needs to look at several aspects as follow:

1) Rebuild all infrastructure and natural resources, which have been dormant and not functioning well. Moreover, it needs to provide public service to local community in order to empower and develop the growth of sustainable tourism. This can be based on ecotourism, agro tourism, village tourism, adventure tourism, and mining tourism. Bear in mind, every conducted effort must have broad insight to local community as the host.
2) The equal distribution of all elements to support the promotion of ABST to reach a balanced state of development to the community in terms of mutual and communal interactions.
3) To evaluate and redesign all illogical acts which had impacted on the destruction of Amungme Tribe's values especially the acts to create green city and green tourism.
4) To add the quality and quantity of infrastructure and facilities in order to develop the ABST at Mimika Regency.

The ABST program will be applied in Mimika Regency to see whether there are beneficial impacts to the local community or not. Furthermore, this program will be evaluated regularly to find out whether the offered programs are delivered well and meet the target or not.

The Application of Remuneration (R3) Concept
Mutual business cooperation is a potential possibility that should be explored. Having great cooperation and networking amongst all stakeholders, it is able to provide job opportunities for the Amungme Tribe. As for the tourism sector, the strong alliances are actually potential opportunities for the Amungme Tribe to learn more about tourism management since the knowledge of tourism is very little to the community itself. If Amungme Tribe has a better understanding and insight about tourism, then it will surely give competitive advantages to the Amungme community per se. Consequently, other potential job opportunities will arise if the tourism sector grows well.

Within the framework of remuneration, the controlled and coordinated responsibilities for ABST are as follow:
1) There must be a strong support from the government and related stakeholders, especially from PT. Freeport Indonesia.
2) A strong attention must be given to the empowerment of local community (host community) by having great coordination and discipline.
3) Local community is able to have good jobs or work in order to have better economic state. This will have a good impact for Mimika Regency as well, if more people of Amungme community obtain jobs or works.
4) Creating good products and great jobs to generate economic impacts must be put as priority by the government, so that the target to have effective and efficient macro and microeconomics for the Amungme Tribe can be obtained.
5) The government (local and national) level shall open job opportunities available to local people first before giving chances for over-provincial human resources to work within Mimika Regency.

Having analyzed the above considerations, it is expected that all efforts to build tourism in order to increase local economic income may be obtained and be beneficial for local community. Thus, the objectives of ABST will accordingly be met.

The Application of Reconciliation (R4) Concept

Reconciliation is a way to overcome conflicts happening at Mimika Regency especially those related to Amungme Tribe. In the reconciliation process, there must be identification and investigation processes done at local community to find facts and fairness to all involved. Therefore, comprehensive solutions may be obtained. It is indeed difficult to find the causes of conflicts in Papua, especially at Mimika Regency. Therefore, to find the roots of all conflicts must be done in a structured way. Most conflicts are arguably coming from the cases of robbery and fraud amongst the Amungme community.

Giyai (2013) mentions that the indigenous people of Papua suffer from several problems due to the government's decisions and the effects of national and international companies' operation in Mimika Regency. It is expected that ABST will be able to do investigation and justification toward the life of Mimika Regency's community, especially to Amungme Tribe. Therefore, the objectives of reconciliation are able to cure, to control, and to minimize all potential conflicts amongst the people of Amungme Tribe.

All conflicts happened in Mimika Regency must be clarified and identified step by step to find best solutions so that peaceful life may be reached. ABST program will somehow minimize the potential conflict by applying control method such as clarifying, identifying, summarizing, correcting, and solving.

One of main objectives of reconciliation is to keep the peace and security amongst indigenous people. This is done in order for many people to be able to negotiate and compromise all problems, which might come from indigenous people or 'outsiders' coming from outside Mimika Regency. If peace occurs, the future generation will be able to have better living and surely improve the quality of life. Furthermore, peace within Mimika Regency will have an effect on education sector. People can accordingly get better education and this will indirectly have an impact on economic income.

CONCLUSIONS

Having gathered and analyzed all facts at Mimika Regency, especially at Amungme Tribe, the authors are able to identify and understand comprehensively what are needed to be done for the development of the Amungme Tribe. The authors are able to see how the Amungme Tribe community live and interact as being the indigenous people at Mimika regency, Papua Province. The authors finally propose a comprehensive approach or strategy to develop Amungme Tribe especially and Mimika Regency in general by applying an innovative program namely Amungme-Based Sustainable Tourism (ABST), which focuses on the 4Rs concept, which are Revitalization (R1), Reconstruction (R2), Remuneration (R3), Reconciliation (R4).

The main objectives of these four concepts are as follow:
1. Revitalisation: Culture/Preservation. To protect and preserve the cultural tourism of local people and to increase the socialization and promotion of sustainable tourism for Amungme community at Mimika Regency.
2. Reconstruction: Nature/Conservation. To manage and develop the ecosystem of Mimika Regency through ABST to create green city and green tourism.
3. Remuneration: Economy/Product. To provide economic income for community through ABST by empowering local community to generate economical income.

4. Reconciliation: Social/Peacefulness. To find all potential vertical and horizontal conflicts happening at Timika and to get solutions to minimize or overcome the problems.

If these four concepts are applied well within the framework of ABST program, it is highly expected that Amungme Tribe community and Mimika Regency will have better living standard as well as economic improvement for the region itself. The application of Amungme-Based Sustainable Tourism needs to be supported by all stakeholders: the local government, local community, and all local, national and international companies operating in Mimika Regency, especially PT. Freeport Indonesia. All stakeholders need to synergize their work and participation to achieve the main objectives of ABST.

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