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Village Law, Village Government, and Community Empowerment: The Case Study in Sub-district of Kedawung, Cirebon

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the effect of policy implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 on rural community empowerment in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency. In this study, policy implementation was described in the bureaucratic structure. This descriptive research applied a quantitative approach. The samples used were 100 respondents, and the research method employed was the descriptive analysis method. Data were collected through the distribution of questionnaires as the main instrument. Based on the study results, the influence of communication describing the implementation of the bureaucratic structure explained the policy implementation by 49.13%. The value of the policy implementation variable could be explained largely by the bureaucratic structure. Then, simultaneously, the effect of the policy implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 on rural community empowerment was 77.87%. Meanwhile, the remaining 22.13% that participated in determining the achievement of community empowerment were affected by other variables outside of this study. This study concludes that The implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages had a significant positive effect on the empowerment of rural communities. The strongest indicator of effect was the indicator that the village government's policies could increase people's income. The urgency of research on community empowerment is to increase community participation and independent activities through village funds towards superior HR competitiveness and to support regional autonomy through village government which the Village Law constructs.

Keywords: Village government, policy implementation, community empowerment

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh implementasi kebijakan undang-undang nomor 6 tahun 2014 terhadap pemberdayaan masyarakat Desa di Kecamatan Kedawung Kabupaten Cirebon. Implementasi kebijakan dijelaskan dalam struktur birokrasi. Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif dengan pendekatan kuantitatif. Sample yang digunakan sebanyak 100 responden, kemudian metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah metode deskriptif analisis. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui penyebaran angket sebagai instrumen utama. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian diketahui bahwa pengaruh komunikasi yang menjelaskan implementasi struktur birokrasi menerangkan implementasi kebijakan sebesar 49,13%. Nilai variabel implementasi kebijakan dapat dijelaskan paling besar oleh struktur birokrasi. Kemudian secara simultan pengaruh implementasi kebijakan Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 terhadap pemberdayaan masyarakat desa sebesar 77,87%. Sedangkan sisanya yang ikut menentukan pencapaian pemberdayaan masyarakat sebesar 22,13% ditentukan oleh variabel lain di luar penelitian ini. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa Implementasi Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 tentang Desa berpengaruh positif signifikan terhadap pemberdayaan masyarakat desa. Indikator pengaruh yang paling kuat adalah indikator bahwa kebijakan pemerintah desa dapat meningkatkan pendapatan masyarakat. Urgensi dari penelitian tentang pemberdayaan masyarakat yaitu untuk meningkatkan

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partisipasi dan aktifitas mandiri masyarakat melalui dana desa menuju daya saing SDM yang unggul, dan mendukung otonomi daerah melalui pemerintah desa yang dikonstruksi UU Desa.

Kata Kunci: Pemerintah desa, implementasi kebijakan, pemberdayaan masyarakat

INTRODUCTION

A country will exist if there is a government that leads and regulates the lives of its people. Government is a group of people or organizations given the power to govern and have the authority to make and apply laws in an area (Tampubolon, 2016). In general, the government is an institution or public body tasked with realizing the state's goals. These institutions are also given the authority to carry out leadership, government coordination, and community development of the various institutions in which they are placed. Here, people's obedience still depends on the leader (Aji et al., 2020; Karim et al., 2020).

In-Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, a state is committed to protecting and empowering villages to become strong, advanced, independent, and democratic to create a strong foundation for implementing governance and development toward a just, prosperous, and affluent society (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 Tentang Desa, 2014). The idea of empowerment departs from the objective reality, which refers to the unequal structural conditions in terms of the allocation of power and the distribution of access to community resources (Breton, 1994). Empowerment is also an alternative to development that was previously formulated according to the developmental-ism (modernization) perspective (Prajoko, 2016). In this case, the author believes that development and empowerment have different perspectives and beliefs.

This function supports the implementation of regional autonomy and demands the empowerment of regional governments with sufficient authority in managing regional resources to carry out various decentralized affairs (Hawrysz & Foltys, 2016; Rachmawati, 2008). For this reason, local governments need to increase the participation of the community and the private sector in development and governance activities. Central and local government policies also need to increase community economic activity, and supporting local government funding in the long term (Abidin, 2016; Mangkoesoebroto, 2000). In this function, the government must also provide sufficient space for the community's independent activities to increase community participation in the region. It is even more so if the community interests are considered, both in regulations and real government actions.

Furthermore, the smallest area of the government system in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is the village. The juridical existence of the village is contained in Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, which explains that the village is the smallest part of the government administration system (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014

Tentang Desa, 2014). The village is also part of the government system in direct contact with the community so that every policy implementation issued by the central and local government must go through the village, resulting in the role of the village greatly determining the success of the policy (Koneya, 1978; Widada, 2012). In the law, it is also explained that the implementation of regional autonomy has been handed over to the village so that it has the authority to manage, regulate, and organize its household, including the management of village funds (Sakho, 2017).

As stated in Regulation of the Minister of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration No. 11 of 2019 concerning Priority for the Use of Village Funds in 2020 Article 12, the priority of using village funds is for programs and activities in the field of village development and empowerment of rural communities. Furthermore, Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (UU Desa/Village Law) marks a new chapter and change in the politics of national development, where the village becomes the fulcrum that gets serious attention (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 Tentang Desa, 2014). However, the political atmosphere depends on the trend's perspective and complying with laws and regulations (Marks, 2014; Subhan et al., 2021). Thus, the Village Law is believed to be a gateway of hope to more advanced village life. As a legal basis for the existence of villages, the Village Law also constructs a new perspective on village practice (government, development, and empowerment of rural communities) (Suriadi, 2005). Besides, community empowerment is highly dependent on the role of the government, institutional assumptions, and the role of companies (Kardiyati & Karim, 2020). Hence, the village is confirmed as a subject that regulates and takes care of itself.

The new paradigm of the village is vital for village development as a system constructed by the Village Law, which places the community in a strategic position as the subject of development (Hendrickson et al., 2011). Thus, the community has a strategic space and role in village governance, including implementing village development (Voth, 1975). An essential issue in this context is the improvement of community empowerment. The community has an effective pressure to realize good village governance and the implementation of development, which is appropriate and fulfills the community's aspirations (Prajoko, 2016).

Specifically, Kedawung, Kalikoa, Tuk, and Kedung Jaya Villages are villages in the Kedawung Sub-district, which received a village fund budget from the central government in 2020. The village budget obtained by the village government should be allocated from two principles, namely, economic growth and community empowerment. From the data in the initial field observations conducted by researchers regarding the size of the 2020 village fund budget, the percentage of village funds allocated for the Village Cash for Work is quite large. What is meant by Village Cash for Work or abbreviated as PKTD, is an activity to empower rural communities, especially the poor and marginal, which is

productive by prioritizing the use of resources, labor, and local technology to provide additional wages/income, reduce poverty, and improve people's welfare.

Table 1. Obtaining and Using Village Funds (VF) in 2020 (Kalikoa, Tuk, Kedawung, and Kedung Jaya Villages)

No	Village	Ceiling VF 2020 (IDR)	Use of VF							
			Covid-19 Safe Village		Direct VF cash assistance		Village Cash for Work		Other Activities	
			Rp	%	Rp	%	Rp	%	Rp	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1.	Kalikoa	929.425.000	93.954.000	10	425.700.000	46	359.324.000	39	50.447.000	5
2.	Tuk	1.037.375.000	35.000.000	3	225.000.000	22	675.086.000	65	102.289.000	10
3.	Kedungjaya	1.077.891.000	53.227.000	5	471.600.000	44	278.689.000	26	274.375.000	25
4.	Kedawung	920.747.000	26.691.667	3	414.000.000	45	243.290.600	26	236.764.733	26

Source: VF Usage Report Data for 2020 Kedawung District

Based on the results of field observations conducted by researchers, several problems were found, as follows. (1) Public understanding of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (Village Law), which encourages community empowerment and resource development, was still low. (2) Some empowerment programs in the Village Cash for Work were not implemented, which is thought to be caused by the incompetence of village officials in applying Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (Village Law). (3) Information received in implementing Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (Village Law) was poorly understood by village officials so it could not empower village communities to the fullest (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 Tentang Desa, 2014).

Therefore, based on the background stated above, it is interesting to study the role of the village government in community empowerment with the following problem formulation: How much influence does the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages have on the rural community empowerment in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, in terms of the bureaucratic structure?

RESEARCH METHOD

The object of this research was the bureaucratic aspect of the village government's role in community empowerment based on Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. The method used in this research was the descriptive analysis method, with a quantitative approach (Arikunto, 2010; Perumal, 2014), namely, research that was then processed and analyzed to conclude (Nazir, 2005). In this study, the authors obtained data employing

a closed questionnaire, with a rating scale format classified into five categories: very good, good, fairly good, not good, and very not good (Abawi, 2013; Sugiyono, 2016); that had been given a score, where the data would be calculated statistically (Al-Rasyid, 2004; Paterson et al., 2016). This research was directed to employees in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency. Furthermore, to obtain representative information, the respondents involved in the analysis unit were community leaders, BPD (Village Consultative Body), LPMD (Village Community Empowerment Institute), and village officials, as many as 100 people in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency.

This is by Suharsimi Arikunto (2002: 120) that if the total population is less than 100, all are taken, but if more than 100, 20%-25% or more of the total population can be taken. The total population of the Kedawung regency is 28,001 peo. The number of samples in Kedawung District, Cirebon Regency is using the Slovin formula as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

It is known that the population (N) = 28,001 people, then with e (precision) = 10%, the sample (n) is obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{28.001}{1+28.001 \times 0.10^2} \\ &= 99,999 \\ n &= \text{rounded up to 100 people} \end{aligned}$$

To test the validity of the measuring instrument, first, the correlation value between the parts of the measuring instrument as a whole was sought. I was by correlating each item of the measuring instrument with the total score, which is the sum of each item score, utilizing the Pearson Product Moment Correlation formula (Perumal, 2014), as follows:

$$r = \frac{\sum X_1 Y_1 - 1/n (\sum X_1)(\sum Y_1)}{\sqrt{(\sum X_1^2 - 1/n(\sum X_1)^2)(\sum Y_1^2 - 1/n(\sum Y_1)^2)}}$$

Next, the statistical value of the t-test was calculated with the formula:

$$t = \frac{r\sqrt{n-2}}{\sqrt{1-r^2}}$$

Decision rule:

If: $t_{\text{count}} \leq t_{\alpha}$, H_0 is accepted (invalid measuring instrument)

$t_{\text{count}} > t_{\alpha}$, H_0 was rejected (valid measuring instrument)

Path analysis was used to determine the effect of the variable of policy implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 on village community empowerment (Dani, 2019). Furthermore, the hypothesis test design employed parametric statistical tests to analyze the effect between two or more variables.

FINDINGS

The primary instrument used to collect relevant data in this research was a questionnaire. The questionnaire was distributed directly by contacting the respondents. In the questionnaire, the answers to the statements submitted have been placed, and alternative answers have been determined. The questionnaire disseminated to respondents consisted of nine statements for variable X (the policy implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014) and nine statements for variable Y (rural community empowerment). Five possible answers accompanied each statement that the respondent had to choose and consider appropriate. The answers from respondents for each statement were then arranged according to the assessment criteria based on the total score and grade value, with the following steps:

1. The cumulative value is the sum of each statement item, which was the answer from 100 respondents in this study.
2. The percentage is the cumulative value of the item divided by its frequency value multiplied by 100%.
3. The number of respondents was 100 people, with the largest measurement scale value of 5 and the smallest measurement scale value of 1. Thus, the largest cumulative number of values was $5 \times 100 = 500$, and the smallest cumulative number was $1 \times 100 = 100$. The largest percentage value was $(500/500) \times 100\% = 100\%$, while the smallest percentage value was $(100/500) \times 100\% = 20\%$. From the two percentage values, the range was obtained $(100\% - 20\%) = 80\%$, and if divided by four measurement scales,

the percentage interval value was $(80\%)/5 = 16\%$. Therefore, the classification of the assessment criteria was obtained as follows:

Table 2. Assessment Criteria Based on Percentage

No	Percentage	Assessment Criteria
1	< 20	Very not Good
2	20 - 40	Not Good
3	41 - 60	Fairly Good
4	61 - 80	Good
5	> 80	Very Good

The grade value criteria for each statement item were determined based on the following formula:

$$\text{Grade value} = \frac{\text{Cumulative value}}{\text{Number of respondents}}$$

Because the range value between the largest measurement scale and the smallest measurement scale was $5-1 = 4$, if divided by five measurement scales, the grade value interval was $4/5 = 0.8$. Thus, the weighting scale/grade value was obtained as follows:

Table 3. Weighing Scale/Grade Value

Answer Score	Grade Value	Answer Category
1	0,1 - 1,81	Very not Good
2	1,82 - 2,63	Not Good
3	2,64 - 3,45	Fairly Good
4	3,46 - 4,27	Good
5	4,28 - 5,00	Very Good

Source: Hadi Sutrisno (2006)

Bureaucracy Dimension

The authors conveyed this bureaucratic dimension to the respondents through a list of statements to be filled with indicators: running smoothly coordination between related

institutions in the policy implementation program of Law No. 6 of 2014 and clearly defined procedures for implementing Law No. 6 of 2014.

The implementation results of the dimension in the form of dispositions in villages in the Kedawung Sub-district are shown in the table below:

Table 4. Implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, Disposition Dimensions in Kedawung Sub-district

No	Statements	Total Score	Grade Value	Criteria
1.	Coordination between related institutions in the policy implementation program of Law No. 6 of 2014 runs smoothly.	388	3,88	Good
2.	The procedure for implementing Law No. 6 of 2014 is clearly defined.	391	3,91	Good
Total Dimension Score		779	3,89	Good

From Table 4. above, it can be seen that the mean value obtained from the bureaucracy dimension had a grade value of 3.89 and was in a good category. With these results, it can be said that the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages in the bureaucratic dimension has been carried out well.

Based on the authors' observations and interviews with several respondents, it can be stated that the village governments' bureaucracy in Kedawung Sub-district has been running with good criteria, so it is hoped that the village government goals set can be implemented properly.

Village Community Empowerment in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency (Y)

With the enactment of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, it is hoped that it can be implemented to improve the ability of village governments to be more active in advancing and prospering villages and improving the living standards of their people.

Next is how the implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages can impact empowering rural communities. From the data processing results on the variable of village

community empowerment in Tuk Village, Kedawung Village, Kalikoa Village, and Kedungjaya Village, Kedawung Sub-District, the following results were obtained:

Table 5. Village Community Empowerment in Kedawung Sub-district

No.	Statements	Total Score	Grade Value	Criteria
1	The village government policy has fulfilled basic needs so that the community is free to express opinions.	432	4,32	Good
2	The village government policy has fulfilled basic needs to free the community from hunger.	403	4,03	Good
3	The village government policy has fulfilled the basic needs of education so that the community is free from ignorance or difficulties.	400	4,00	Good
4	The village government policy can increase people's income.	387	3,87	Good
5	The village government policy can generate income from the necessary public services.	386	3,86	Good
6	The village government policy can increase the community's creativity in the economy.	392	3,92	Good
7	The community participates in the village development process.	401	4,01	Good
8	The community participates in decision-making that affects social life.	389	3,89	Good
9	The community participates in supervising the village development program.	401	4,01	Good
Total Skor (Variabel Y)		3591	3,99	Good

Based on Table 5. above, it can be seen that the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawang Sub-district obtained a score of 3591, with a grade value of 3.99 and was in a good category. These results illustrate that the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawang Sub-district belonged to good criteria.

This fact is evidenced by the nine lists of statements the authors conveyed to the respondents, which had good criteria. It also proves that the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawang Sub-district was generally good.

Table 5. also shows that the strongest statement is that the village government's policy has fulfilled the community's basic needs in terms of freedom of expression. Meanwhile, the weakest statement is that village government policies can generate income from the necessary community services.

Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis testing was carried out simultaneously or together using the F-test. The main hypothesis testing was conducted under the conceptual paradigm of the study, which reflected the hypothesis that "the magnitude of the impact of the implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages towards empowering rural communities in Kedawang Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, is determined by communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure."

Meanwhile, the F-test statistical test results based on the significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$ or $\alpha = 5\%$ obtained the $F = 43.113$. Meanwhile, F_{α} at degrees of freedom of $0.05 = 4.04$. Then, $F > F_{\alpha}$, 0.1 or $P > 0.05$; thus, H_0 was rejected: $P < 0.05$. Based on the F-test results, it can be explained that the influence of X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , and X_4 , including communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure, significantly influenced the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawang Sub-district simultaneously.

Furthermore, the magnitude of the influence of the policy implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 on the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawang Sub-district was stated by the coefficient of determination of $R^2 = 0.7787$ or 77.87% . Meanwhile, other influences that were not examined outside of the variable of the policy implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 amounted to 22.13% .

For testing the sub-hypothesis, it was done partially through a t-test. The t-test is known as the partial test to test how the influence of each independent variable individually on the dependent variable. This test can be done by comparing the t-count with the t-table or by looking at the significance column for each t-count.

To test whether the proposed hypothesis was accepted or rejected, the t-statistic (one-tailed test) was utilized. The test criteria are:

1. If $-t_{table} < t_{count} < +t_{table}$, H_0 is accepted, and H_a is rejected.
2. If $t_{count} < -t_{table}$ or $t_{count} > +t_{table}$, H_0 is rejected, and H_a is accepted.

This t-test was carried out at degrees of freedom $(n-k-1)$, where n is the number of respondents and k is the number of variables. For the confidence level, 95% or $\alpha = 5\%$ was used. The following is a partial test of the variables X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , and X_4 .

Table 6. Partial Test

Variable	Significance	Correlation	Conclusion
X_1	0,004	0,821	Significant with a very strong relationship
X_2	0,009	0,759	Significant with a strong relationship
X_3	0,156	0,661	Not significant with a moderate relationship
X_4	0,000	0,692	Significant with a moderate relationship

Source: Data Processing Results, 2021

From Table 6 above, it is known that the variables X_1 , X_2 and X_4 were significant and had varied relationships, namely moderate, strong, and very strong. Meanwhile, variable X_3 was not significant but had a moderate relationship.

Furthermore, to see the magnitude of the influence of each variable mentioned above, can be seen in the following table:

Table 7. The Magnitude of the Influence of X1, X2, X3 and X4 on Y

	Direct	Indirect				Sub Total	Total Influence
		X1	X2	X3	X4		
X1	28,85		21,28	-30,80	24,77	15,25	44,10
X2	26,63	21,28		-37,22	28,48	12,53	39,17
X3	68,06	-30,80	-37,22		-54,55	-122,58	-54,52
X4	50,43	24,77	28,48	-54,55		-1,30	49,13
Effect of Variables X1, X2, X3 and X4 on Y							77,87
Effect of other Variables on Y							22,13
Total							100,00

Based on Table 7. above and the authors' observations, it turned out that the four variables of implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages had different effects from one another. The direct influence had a greater value than the indirect influence. However, simultaneously, the four sub-variables influenced the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency. Therefore, it can be said that the policy implementation of Law No. 6 of 2014 both directly and indirectly affected the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-District, Cirebon Regency.

Table 7. also displays that the biggest (dominant) influence on the empowerment of rural communities in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, was the bureaucratic structure variable, with a grade value of 3.46. Besides the effect of variables X1, X2, X3, and X4 on the Y variable, there was also a correlation between X1, X2, X3, and X4 variables. If one of these variables did not have a relationship with other variables, the expected empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, could not be achieved.

DISCUSSION

From the data processing results as shown in the previous table, the Coefficient of Determination (R^2) on the variable of implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages was 0.7787 and at a significant level of <0.05 . If the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages is carried out correctly (Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014 Tentang Desa, 2014), the empowerment of rural communities in Kedawung

Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, will also increase. The findings' analysis shows that the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages has a significant positive effect on Village Community Empowerment in Kedawung District, Cirebon Regency, either simultaneously or partially.

Hence, if the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, wants to increase, the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages must be more internalized. It has been proven that the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages had a positive relationship with the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency. Furthermore, it can also be explained that the weakest variable in implementing the law was the communication dimension (X1), while the strongest dimension was the bureaucratic structure (X4). Thus, the direction of improvement should be prioritized in the communication aspect (Winarno, 2014). In the deep version, the policies followed are usually based on strong government spirituality (Karim, 2019).

From the data processing results, it is also known that of the four dimensions of the policy implementation variable of the Law No. 6 of 2014, the lowest mean value was in dimension 2 (human resources) of 3.40 out of a scale of 4 with a good category, while the highest was dimension 1 (communication) of 3.46 out of a scale of 4. The analysis of the findings on dimensions shows that the dimension of the implementation variable of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages which has the lowest value, is the resource dimension, while the strongest dimension is the communication dimension. Thus, the weakest dimension was the resource dimension, while the strongest dimension was communication (Umar, n.d.).

Furthermore, it can also be explained that the indicator of village community empowerment variable in Kedawung District, Cirebon Regency, which had the lowest mean value, was indicator 1 (the village government policy has fulfilled the basic policy so that people are free to express opinions) of 3.11. Meanwhile, the highest was indicator 4 (the village government's policy can increase people's income) of 3.81. The analysis of the indicators shows that the weakest indicator is that the village government policy indicator has fulfilled the basic policies so that people are free to express their opinions, while the strongest indicator is that the village government policy indicator can increase people's income. Therefore, the weakest indicator was the indicator that the village government's policies have fulfilled the basic policies so that people are free to express their opinions. In contrast, the strongest indicator was the indicator that the village government's policies can increase people's income (Dani, 2019).

CONCLUSION

The implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages had a significant positive effect on the empowerment of rural communities in the Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, either simultaneously or partially. Simultaneously, concerning the achievement of community empowerment, the magnitude of the influence was 77.87%, and the rest, 22.13%, was determined by other variables outside this research. The weakest indicator was the indicator that the village government's policies have fulfilled the basic policies so that people are free to express their opinions. In contrast, the strongest indicator was the indicator that the village government's policies can increase people's income.

By knowing the positive influence of the implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages on the empowerment of rural communities in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, the recommendations that can be given are as follows. Regional leaders, both at the village and sub-district levels, should pay more attention to communication aspects, both among employees and the community, by providing facilities or meeting activities that are more intensive and transparent so that communication can be further improved. In addition, further research is needed to determine other factors outside of the variables of implementation of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages that affect the empowerment of rural communities in Kedawung Sub-district, Cirebon Regency, such as by adding a monitoring variable.

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