The Border Community Assistance: Focus Group Discussion from Agency of Community Service of IPDN in The District of Merauke Papua Province

Hardiyanto Rahman

Institute Government of Home Affairs (IPDN)

biluhuta.binte@yahoo.co.id

Abstract

This paper generally use methods study of literature, legislation, secondary data analysis and field observations. This paper aims to help the Merauke government in improving the welfare of border communities through several strategic measures including community empowerment programs increase people's skills through training, provision of capital and appropriate technology, promotion and marketing as well as the establishment of village-owned enterprises, other steps in the planning and construction of which is implementing participatory patterns in these forums and Organization of the Region can socialize in advance the planned program so that any proposals from the community can be accommodated, besides the need for priority development of road infrastructure, education and health facilities as well as the development of telecommunication networks. For the field of resilience and security of the country it needs the technology to monitor the border at points that are difficult to reach, as well as intensive communication in the completion of projects being built in border areas and coordination of relevant parties on the issue of community rights that is unresolved.

As for some problems experienced in the process of community empowerment in the district of Merauke is low capacity of local communities to manage the natural resources available, road infrastructure and public facilities that are not sufficient, there is a lack of knowledge of the apparatus District / Village, sophisticated technology that monitors the state border has not been adequate, as well as unresolved government projects and many issues of ancestral community land.

Key Words: Community Empowerment, Establishment, Borderland
INTRODUCTION

State border is very hot topic to talk about, as well as land, air and sea border. The border is not just limited to the dividing line between countries, but also the dividing line between state policies. Not a few countries that do battle because of the country's borders, both boundary and natural resources problems, and public welfare issues. Can be seen in various national media how Susi Pudjiastuti Indonesian Minister of Marine and Fisheries were very firm in maintaining Indonesia's territorial of the fish thieves. Indonesia, which incidentally has a very broad geographic, would be heavier to manage the nation's borders. Learning from history that are some of the Indonesian island has claimed owned by neighboring countries, such threats are generated due to the low attention of the government in managing the state border areas.

Border management in Papua province until now has not been fully carried out based on the principle of people's needs, can be proved from the absence of significant changes in the infrastructure development and improvement of human resources in the border region of Papua. The development gap between the border regions can still be found in Merauke, which can be seen with the characteristics that limited facilities and infrastructure, lack of public accessibility, and low quality of human resources. People who do not have the skills it will be difficult to develop existing potential, it will have an impact on people's lives, especially in terms of revenue, even increase the gap between the rich and the poor.

The most important development of border regions is the road infrastructure, with the presence of the road it will emerge a life. With the road then the economy could take place, education, health, and information will be entered into the border area. No different with Coralie Bryant and Louise White1 (1987: 3), which explains that the development is one of the most urgent concepts in our present time, it draws hard questions about the values, techniques, and choices. Development brings back the classic question about the nature of the "good society" and also the problem of who should determine the content and the purpose of the public. Because of these problems are extensive and difficult, it is easy for people to obscure it in generalizations, using the term development as a euphemism for change, modernization, or growth. Nevertheless, the development is more complicated than implied in these words. While Mohandas K. Gandhi2 said development is a normative concept, it implies choices of goal to achieve what is referred to Gandhi as "the realization of human potential".

Merauke district has the motto 'Izakod Bekai Izakod kai', which means One Heart One goal is

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2 ibid
one of 29 districts / municipalities in the province of Papua is located in the south which has the largest area among the districts / cities in the province of Papua. The geographic location of Merauke is between 137° - 141° east longitude and 5° 00'9 00' South Latitude. Merauke district located at the east archipelago with boundaries as follows:

1. Northern side bordered by Regency of Boven Digoel and Mappi.
2. Eastern side bordered by the State of Papua New Guinea.
3. Southern side bordered by the Arafura Sea.
4. Western side bordered by the Arafura Sea.

Before the expansion, Merauke district has an area of 119.749 km² (29% of the area of Papua Province). After expansion, the current area of Merauke district is 46791.63 km² supervises 20 Town, 8 country and 160 village. The topography of Merauke district is generally flat and swampy along the coast with a slope of 0-3% and towards the north starting from Sloping Land District, Jagebob, Elikobel, Muting and Ulilin the topography is undulating with a slope of 0-8%. Geographical conditions of Merauke that relatively unspoiled, considered as challenges and opportunities for the development of Merauke district, which still holds a lot of potential for economic development.

Merauke district along with eight (8) other Autonomous District was established by Act No. 12 of 1969 on the Establishment of the Autonomous Province of West Irian and Autonomous District in the Province of West Irian. Previously Merauke, covered: five (5) Regions Head of Government, namely: Head of Local Government of Merauke, Tanah Merah, Mindiptana, Agats and Mapi / Kepi, consisting of 30 district and 513 Village. In 2002 under Act No. 26 of 2002, Merauke regency divided into 4 (four) District, namely: Merauke (Main District), District Digoel, Mappi and Asmat. In Merauke district alone after expansion supervises 160 countrys and 8 villages. Following the District Regulation of Merauke No. 5 of 2002 dated December 14, 2002, the district of Merauke divided into 11 (eleven) District, namely: District Merauke, Semangga district, District Land Leaning, District Kurik, District Jagebob, District Sota, Mutung District, District Elikobel, Ulilin District, District and District Okaba Kimam.

Then in 2006 carried more expansion of district, from 11 became 20 district, four district that expanded were Kimam District, Okaba District, District Kurik and Merauke District. The District Expansion based on the Merauke District Regulation No. 2 of 2006 On July 1, 2006 on the Establishment Naukenjerai District, District Animha, Malind District, District Tubang, Ngguti District, District Kaptel, Tabonji District, District Waan and District Waan. By doing Expansion for the second time,
Merauke district currently consists of 20 (twenty) District, 8 (Eight) Country and 160 (One Hundred Sixty) village.6

The border area known as a "sexy" area, both in the context of internal and external (international). Some of the issues that continue to be debated in the border region are (a) the potential for invasion of foreign culture and ideology; (B) potential for transnational crime; (c) illegal logging; (d) illegal fishing; (E) exploitation of natural resources illegally; (F) human trafficking, especially women and children; (G) illegal immigrants; (H) people smuggling; (I) narcotics; (J) the entrance of terrorists and pirates; and (k) socio-cultural conflicts. In general, the problems of border areas include the following three aspects7:

a. Social economic aspects, the border region is undeveloped areas. This was due to the relatively isolated location, with a low level of accessibility; low levels of education and public health; low levels of social welfare, economic issue of frontier society (the large number of poor and backward village); and the scarcity of information about the government and development perceived by the people in the border area (blank spots).

b. Aspects of defense and security, the border area is a vast territory with an uneven pattern of population distribution. That caused the government difficult to control. In addition, monitoring and managing the territory is difficult to implement synergistic, stable and efficient.

c. Social and economic aspects of society in the border region in general is influenced by socio-economic activities in neighboring countries. The condition is potentially inviting insecurity, both in economics and politics.

Based on the above considerations, the Community Service Organization IPDN along with Lecturer8 perform community service activities with some of the topics that Border Community Empowerment, Border Area Development Planning Function, Politics Border Administration in the Implementation of Regional Autonomy, and Economic Development in the Border Region. FGD conducted with the Merauke district government, both at the district level, District Government, the Government of the village, and especially to the Society.

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6 ibid
7 Djaka Marwasta in Indonesian Journal of Community Engagement Vol. 01, No. 02, March 2016 Faculty of Geography at the University of Gadjah Mada. Assistance Border Area Assistance and Management in Indonesia: Lessons Learned From KKN-PPM UGM In Border Area.

METHOD

Methods used in the preparation of this article are the study of literature, legislation, secondary data analysis and field observations. The literature study conducted by reviewing the problems based on the concepts of border, border area management, problems in the border community empowerment. The legislation would be a major foundation in implementing a policy. In writing this article the author took more data from secondary data and field observations, which derived from analysis of data on local government, even from the level of districts and sub-district and the data from the presentation material of local government district of Merauke at the opening of community service LPM IPDN. Given the data above IPDN lecturer team will be established to direct observation, either in the form of physical observation and extracting information in society. This information is obtained by the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in 3 (three) District border region that are the Merauke District Sota, Elikobel District, and District Ulilin. Various border issues are discussed together, and the results of the FGD were compiled and made recommendations for solving to the Merauke government as study materials to create a policy.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Borders

State border is the main manifestation of a country's territorial sovereignty. The borders of a country has an important role in determining the limits of the border region, use of natural resources, security and territorial integrity. The determination of the state border is in many ways determined by the process of historical, political, legal, national, and international. In the Constitution of a country is often included boundary delimitations as well. According to Riswanto Tirtosudarmo in Zulkifli, the state border is determined along with the birth of the country. Border is a geographical space that since the beginning is a region of a power struggle between countries, mainly characterized by their fight to expand the boundaries between countries.

Border Community Empowerment

The concept of empowerment adapted from the term empowerment is growing in Europe from the middle Ages, continued to grow until the end of the 70s, 80s, and early 90s. The concept of empowerment as an attempt to give autonomy, authority and confidence to every individual in an organization, and encourage them to be creative in order to complete the task as good as possible. The concept of empowerment in community development discourse related to the approach of independence,
participation and networking. Community empowerment is not only to develop the economic potential of the community, but also dignity, self-confidence and self-esteem as well as the maintenance of order and local cultural values. Empowerment as a socio-cultural concept that implementative in the people-centered development, not only to develop the added value to the economy, but also social and cultural values of local communities.

Empowerment efforts implemented through the provision of social assistance are particularly vulnerable, because limited to meet the needs of the moment. Such efforts do not educate people to try to develop the capabilities and potential of its resources. Development failure that ignores community empowerment due to the development only benefits a small group of people and do not benefit the people at large, even on the extreme side it perceived detrimental for most people, despite the development intended to benefit the people at large, but sometimes people do not understand because the people were not involved. Other than that though the development is intended to benefit the people, but the implementation is not in accordance with the needs of the community.10

Some experts suggested the following definition of empowerment viewed from the purpose, process and ways of empowerment (Edi Suharto Suharto in 2010: 58)11:

1. Empowerment aims to increase the powers of those who are weak or disadvantaged.
2. Empowerment is a process by which people become strong enough to participate in a wide range of control over, and influence of the events and institutions that affect their lives, empowerment emphasized that people acquire the skills, knowledge, and power, enough to affect their lives and the lives of others they concern about.
3. Empowerment refers to the effort of reallocation of power by changing the social structure.
4. Empowerment is a means by which people, organizations, and community directed to be able to control (or reign) their life.

Some strategies of Community Empowerment explained by Diah Anggraeni are12:
1. Community Empowerment
   a. Establishment of democracy and public participation from the national level to the Village.
   b. Decentralization and autonomy in decision-making.
   c. Increasing the capacity of local governments and villages in serving the poor/marginal
   d. Sustainability of community empowerment programs with the active participation of the public
2. Promoting Opportunity

10 Anggraeni Diah, Head of LPM IPDN. Presentation on Opening Dedication Border communities in Merauke Regency, Papua Province.

a. Public policy in the economic, political, social and cultural rights allocated to the poor / marginal
b. Development of physical infrastructure in transport, health, education, housing, especially in the lagging regions, in the context of community economic development.
c. Granting access to education, economic, social, cultural and political to poor families, groups of women and the poor / marginalized, so they can compete in the modern life

3. Enhancing Social Security
   a. Granting legality to the property of the poor in order to become a working capital and obtain credit micro / small
   b. Establishment or strengthening of groups or organizations so that the poor can benefit from access to economic, social, cultural and political for increased robustness and welfare
   c. Development of cooperation network between individuals, organizations / self-help groups, government agencies and economic institutions to expand the capabilities of the individual

Problems of Indonesia Border Regions in General

In general, the border problems covering aspects of ideology, economy, defense and security, social welfare and culture, and politics of the border region as follows:

a. Aspect of Ideology
   Lack of access of both central and local government to the border region could lead to another influx of understanding of ideology that threatens the life of society, nation and state of the Indonesian people. At this time the appreciation and practice of Pancasila as the state ideology and philosophy of life of the nation are not socialized aggressively as they used to be, because it is not consistent between words and actions of state officials. Therefore, it is necessary to have a method of continual coaching of ideology of Pancasila, but is not indoctrination and most importantly the ideals of the nation's leaders, poor condition shown by the border of West Kalimantan which is easier to access the media of neighboring countries, the only private radio start-up in the border region is Arinanda Radio Two in Sajingan.

   The influence of foreign culture that is not in accordance with Indonesian culture can undermine national resistance as it accelerates dekulturisasi contrary to the values of Pancasila. Frontier society are more likely to be affected by foreign culture, due to the greater intensity of relations and economic life depends on the neighboring countries.

b. Development of cooperation network between individuals, organizations / self-help groups, government agencies and economic institutions to expand the capabilities of the individual.
2) Accessibility of border communities is very low. Scarcity of basic infrastructure that is needed to develop the capacity of natural and human resources in the border region, such as transportation (the scarcity of support roads, bridges, docks) electricity, telecommunications, infrastructure of education/school and health.

3) Education and health services is very low.

b. Aspect of Social Economy

1) Socio-economic life in the border area is generally influenced by activities in neighboring countries. This condition creates the potential for inviting insecurity in politics, because although the orientation of the community is still limited to the economic and social fields, especially if the economic life of frontier society depend on the economy of neighboring countries, it will also able to degrade dignity of the nation.

2) The main cities of the border region has not been developed yet as a center of economic activity

3) The implementation of economic cooperation has not been optimal between countries.

4) The level of poverty is very high.

5) The low number of indicators of Human Development Index (HDI) in the border region, which includes aspects of health, income, education and accessibility (SIDA).

6) The scarcity of investment coming into the border region.

7) Unavailability of detailed plans for the border area spatial elaboration of the spatial plan its own district, so it is not known for certain zoning division of space, toward the use and structure of the growth centers of border areas.

8) In addition, the border area is underdeveloped and also added with the condition that is relatively isolated with a low level of accessibility.

9) Low level of socio-economic welfare in the border area (the number of poor and underdeveloped villages).

10) The scarcity of information about government and community development in the border areas (blank spot)

11) The social-economics inequality in border areas with neighboring local communities affect the character and lifestyle of the local people and negatively affect the security of the border area and the sense of nationalism.

12) The emergence of cross-border outposts illegally,
enlarge the out migration and illegal economic assets.

c. Aspect of Politics, Law, Defense and Security

The border area is a wide region with the uneven pattern of population distribution, causing a range of government control, supervision and coaching of territorial difficult to implement steadily and efficiently. All forms of activity in the border area, if not managed properly will have an effect on the state defense and security, at the regional and international levels, both directly and indirectly. The border area is prone to become a hideout of GPK group (GPK), smuggling and other crimes, including terrorism, so it can not be denied that the integrated cooperation between agencies involved in the handling also needs to be improved.

International Law, bilateral cooperation and globalization in state border management implemented based on the principle of *uti possidetis juris* that each state gained state borders based on the legacy of the former colonial borders. Boundary disputes be resolved through negotiations, bilateral and regional economic development, efforts to address synergy of each stakeholder.

There are some problems of bilateral relations between countries bordering caused by events, both related to the security and political aspects, and the violation and exploitation of natural resources that cuts across the state, both natural resources of land and sea. Problems with the neighboring countries, among others are the unclear of boundary line of the continental and maritime; the weakness to dealing with violations by fishermen of both countries; and there are the traditional border crossers as a result of kinship, customs and cultural similarities between the two countries. For all these things, it is not uncommon border areas as an entry or transit point for criminals and terrorists

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Border Community Empowerment

The empowerment of border communities conducted by the Merauke district government is expected to improve the welfare of society, especially in the border region as well as with the vision of Merauke that is "Realization of Merauke as Strategic Economic Growth of Border Area by Optimizing Human and Natural Resources Locally Through Agriculture as Top Sector" and then elaborated with Mission of:

1. Increased Regional Stability and the Role of a Border Region
2. Increased Government and Regional Institutional Capacity
3. Development at Village Level, District and County
4. Establishment of the Municipality and the Province of South Papua
5. Agricultural Development oriented on embodiment of Food Barn for Food Security at National and International Levels
6. Strengthening Regional Economic and Investment Opportunities
7. Improving the Quality of Human Resources Development in
accordance with Regional Potential
8. Improving the Quality of Health Care Up To Level Village

When viewed from the vision of Merauke district, which make agriculture as the primary sector, the government should prioritize the Merauke district programs that increase agricultural production community. But in its implementation, governance of Merauke district has not been seriously to cultivate and improve the income of the community and region through agriculture. It can be seen from the Share Analysis of Economic Growth Merauke regency in 2013, namely:

### Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Business field</th>
<th>Distribution of GDRP at Constant Price 2012</th>
<th>Growth of GDRP at Constant Price 2013</th>
<th>Share to Economic Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>42.33</td>
<td>7.35</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mining and Quarrying</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>8.59</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Manufacturing Industry</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>5.46</td>
<td>0.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Electricity and Water Supply</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>10.04</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>8.75</td>
<td>22.73</td>
<td>1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Trade, Hotel, and Restaurant</td>
<td>10.83</td>
<td>10.55</td>
<td>1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Transportation and Communication</td>
<td>11.57</td>
<td>10.85</td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Financial, Ownership, and Business Service</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>13.54</td>
<td>0.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Services</td>
<td>16.96</td>
<td>10.67</td>
<td>1.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PDRB</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics of Merauke

According to the table 1 above, it appears that the financial sector, leasing and business services sector is still more to be considered and become the focus of the government in improving the PAD. While in the Manufacturing sector and the agricultural sector was in the row 2 (two) of the lowest rate of growth compared to other sectors. For more complete contribution of the
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agriculture sector can be seen in the figure below\(^\text{14}\):

![Figure 1: Agriculture Sector Growth by Sub-Sector of Merauke in 2013](image)

Shown in the picture above agricultural sector fluctuated from 2009 to 2013. In the period in 2013 is the highest growth, which reached 7.35 percent. In 2011, it recorded 1.60 percent growth which is the lowest growth, this sector continues to experience positive growth in 2012 about 3.52 percent. In the picture above already appears the government’s desire to improve the agricultural sector, but still low compared to other sectors. So with the various border issues including community development, the authors are very keen to contribute ideas to improve the welfare of society with based on increasing revenue (PAD) through agriculture.

Based on the results of community service of LPM IPDN at Merauke district was found several problems associated with the border community development are\(^\text{15}\):

a. Conditions in the border is classified as poor as a result of the accumulation of several factors: the low quality of human


resources which people are not able to process agricultural products which are owned, and then effect on low productivity in the economy of the community, this was due to lack of supporting infrastructure for the economy eg public markets.

b. The lack of guidance and assistance on an ongoing basis to the empowerment of women, among others:

1) Businesses of eucalyptus oil refinery production volume is limited because of the availability of katel (tool for boiling the leaves of eucalyptus), as well as product packaging is not attractive in the market.

2) The development of economically viable productive businesses on utilization of natural resources in the agricultural and livestock sector is still limited to the fulfillment of needs, and have not been able to give contribution to the supplementary family income (the cultivation of vegetables, fruits, cattle, goats, chickens, fish, etc.).

Some of the solutions offered in the resolution of these issues are as follows:

a. Required continual education and training to the public especially the Activator Tim Family Welfare (PKK) district or village level, so this team can provide training to the community.

b. The need for venture capital assistance, equipment, and appropriate technology Increased Promotion and Marketing

c. The establishment of cooperatives and state-owned Kampung associated with local potential

**Border Area Development Planning**

Some problems on FGD findings with the community and the districts and villages in the border area development planning, namely:

a. Musrenbang village in the border region of Merauke impressed only a ceremonial, in addition to the limited execution time and output is just a wish list is not a list of the needs of society, so many proposals that are not accommodated in the planning district level. Then the local government, especially at the district level need to implement a village community development participatory planning, in this case involve the community actively in development planning in the village starting at RT, RW, village. Another solution is Musrenbang Kampung needs to be realized by integrating planning program between regional organizations device (OPD) and the community. Therefore, before the village planning exercise conducted every OPD is expected to provide information regarding programs that the priority activities of the OPD. Another way that leads to political way that the results of musrenbang needs to be communicated to legislators electoral district village / district
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so that it could get political support.

b. The absence of border area development planning coordination between the central government and local governments. It is characterized by local regulations have not been made about the procedure of planning the construction of the border area, according to the mandate of Article 27 Paragraph (2) of Law Number 25 Year 2004 and Presidential Decree No. 32 of 2015. This is of course necessary coordination between central and local government related to development planning border areas, in this, BNPP district is not just implementers programs of BNPP Center.

c. Lack of infrastructure, especially in land access in the border region that is not adequate, especially in areas that are difficult to reach, with the exception of the District Sota that has always been the object of central officials visit although there are still many other border areas that is less concern.

d. The lack of communication, which is where the telecommunications network is still very difficult to obtain so that people are not able to follow the development of information and technology.

e. The need for infrastructure improvement of basic services such as education and health facilities as well as additional teaching staff and health workers who earn more viable incentives.

f. The case of the construction of water supply projects (PDAM) in District Sota built by the Government of Papua since 2014 have not yet finished and submitted to the district government, the Government of Merauke regency will need to actively coordinate with the Provincial Government.

Border Government Politics in Implementation of Regional Autonomy

The approach taken by the central government in the border region has been more inclined to use a security approach rather than a welfare approach. As a result, the government attention on the security aspect is greater than how to develop the potential of natural resources and human resources dedicated to the welfare of the people in the border region. Then the priority programs of community empowerment border area compared to approach security.

a. The lack of facilities and infrastructure security in the border region when compared to the length of the border, resulting in weak oversight of the security forces against the migration flows of citizens in both countries border. So Merauke government is expected to communicate with the central government regarding the condition of facilities and infrastructure of border security, as well as to the effectiveness of surveillance in border lines, especially at the point of hardly accessible by the security personnel can utilize air monitoring aircraft (drone).
b. Lack of socialization related to national policies to the village so that government officials tend to be late to adjust the direction of the new national policy, among others: Law No. 6 of 2014 on the village, particularly financial management and accountability related to the transfer of funds from the State Budget village. Solutions that can be done that we need to develop guidelines on the implementation of the management and financial accountability related to the transfer of funds from the State Budget village by referring to the legislation that is accompanied by training and assistance for village officials and village assistants.

**Economic Development in Border Region**

In the border communities region that are derived from transmigration land is faced with the issues of delays in completion of the Promised Land as they follow the transmigration program. Where from 2 Ha promised land, approximately ¾ hectares of land still in the area of forest and claimed as communal land whereas certificates of 2 hectares of land was in the hands of transmigrants.

In relation communities in the border region that made their living in agriculture, the land factor becomes very important and strategic for them. The regional government, as in his vision that agriculture will be the main sector, need to prove in solving this problem in coordination with the central government (attaching data on disadvantaged communities). In addition, local governments can replace land claimed as communal land.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the results and discussion can be concluded that the First Merauke government has not been able to accommodate all the needs of border communities, especially on improving the skills of the communities, on the other hand the need to increase human capacity within the district / village in managing finances village so it can be maximized for empowerment, besides the lack of marketing results a product of society whereas the natural resources in the border region is very abundant. Second, the development of road infrastructure, facilities and inadequate infrastructure resulting in the development of society to be slow this can be found in time to the District and District Ulilin Elikobel. Third, the state security service is adequate but the sophistication of the technology in monitoring the borders need to be improved. Fourth, Need for coordination of Merauke district government against those who will do the construction or the like in the border areas so that these projects have the principle of expediency and can be enjoyed by the community, as well as problem solving for community land rights need to be communicated together with the Local Government, the National Land Agency, Customary Chief and Head of the District.
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