

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY TO FACE THE ERA OF SOCIETY 5.0

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Abstract

This study aims to identify the obstacles faced by Indonesia in welcoming technological developments in the Society 5.0 era, as well as the public policies implemented to empower Indonesian people to navigate this era. The research methodology used is qualitative, with a library research approach to comprehensively examine the challenges faced by the government in adapting to the Society 5.0 era. The study revealed that Indonesia's challenges in the Society 5.0 era include employment factors, the digital divide, infrastructure readiness, data security, and environmental impacts. The main obstacle to achieving equal distribution of prosperity is the gap in digital access between urban and rural areas, as well as the gap in infrastructure readiness and digital literacy. These challenges are further exacerbated by the absence of legal protection for personal data and cybersecurity. To overcome this problem, the Indonesian government must proactively collaborate between sectors. Key measures include building inclusive digital infrastructure, reforming digital skills education, and developing inclusive economic policies. To ensure a safe transition to Society 5.0, regulations supporting data security and cybercrime law enforcement are also essential.

Keywords: Government Policy, Society Empowerment, Society 5.0

1. INTRODUCTION

Global changes have occurred simultaneously and can be controlled by countries in the world due to advances in technology and information which provide various conveniences for social communities wherever they are and erode the boundaries of society through the development of the virtual world. After the Industrial Revolution 4.0, the world is currently entering Society 5.0 which started in 2019. This concept was first initiated by Japan, which began implementing various Internet and technology-based digital applications as a resolution to problems that arise in society. The Society 5.0 era itself prioritizes mobility, connectivity, and collaboration in creating various innovations that support the interests of society (Qurotianti, 2023).

Similar to preceding epochs, the advent of Society 5.0 heralds a plethora of conveniences alongside a spectrum of opportunities and challenges. Should a nation find itself unprepared for the transitions inherent in Society 5.0, it may confront augmented obstacles with significant repercussions for its populace. This scenario is particularly pronounced in developing nations, where economic disparities are yet to be bridged and poverty levels remain conspicuously elevated, leading to exacerbated societal divides as a consequence of the integration of Society 5.0. Furthermore, this era is marked by an increased vulnerability to

cybercrime, attributed to insufficient vigilance and the failure to enact and enforce legal frameworks that safeguard the populace against the ramifications of digital advancement.

The application of technology in the Society 5.0 era is a crucial process, especially about economic and industrial growth because it can create job opportunities and improve a more adaptive production system that is beneficial for customers and the industry itself. The presence of Society 5.0 in various parts of the world is an update of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 based on the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and robotic technology which is more widely used by the manufacturing industry. The performance of Society 5.0 itself functions to create synergy and facilitate productive industrial activities. One of the synergies that is applied is the formation of Big Data which involves various sectors in a country which is supported by the exponential growth of data generated by various sources including social media, online transactions, the Internet of Things, and other mobile devices. Integrating various systems makes it possible to help communities create independence by empowering communities in the Society 5.0 period (Raharjo et al., 2023).

Empowerment itself is a process in which society learns to hone critical awareness collectively in creating strong institutions capable of withstanding all forms of government interference in community affairs (Ariefianto & Hilmi, 2019). In increasing awareness, and providing training and mentoring to the community, we use a different approach to formal methods in formal education, it is because the subjects involved are adults (Ariefianto & Hilmi, 2019). Education and training for adults as an empowerment step is a process to facilitate society so that it can position itself as the main actor in an industry that takes advantage of its social environment. Empowerment aims to assist communities to become independent in managing natural and social resources optimally.

The Society 5.0 era is an era that prioritizes technology-based activities and integrated internet networks. Therefore, in facing the Society 5.0 era which is starting to be adopted by many countries, especially developed countries in the world, the development of Artificial Intelligence in the industrial world is very necessary to support the output process of a product. In recent years there has been much discussion regarding the ability of Artificial Intelligence to imitate and even surpass human creativity (Leszkiewicz et al., 2022). With the various advances that exist, this should be able to improve the economy of local communities so that it is more optimal, which is implemented through government policies to improve the digital-based economy.

The Indonesian economy is a consequential pillar in the Society 5.0 era where creative industries such as arts, culture, entertainment, technology, and others are developing and being adopted by the whole world. This era is also a driving force for sustainable economic growth so that innovation continues to occur and improve the quality of life of the community because the transformation that occurs accelerates economic growth through the use of digital platforms that allow free access by the community and even encourage optimal collaboration and distribution for communities in various regions (Priyadi et al., 2023).

Regarding developments brought about by Society 5.0, the government has issued various policies to integrate the use of advanced technology which is useful for improving the quality of life of society. Through community empowerment and equitable infrastructure development, the government is trying to minimize the negative impact of the threat of Society 5.0. Therefore, digital skills training and the provision of adequate platforms facilitate access to public services and opportunities to advance the economy. Thus, community empowerment in the Society 5.0 era is not only a matter of improving the quality and capacity of society, but must take advantage of technological developments for shared prosperity. So, it is necessary to understand the steps taken by the government to empower communities to create an adaptive

society and contribute to the growth of solutions to overcome social and economic issues in this era of digitalization.

2. METHOD

This study was carried out using a literature study approach, which means collecting, researching, and analyzing written sources related to the topics of digital transformation, community empowerment, and the creative economy within the scope of Society 5.0. This process involves extracting information from various sources such as scientific articles, books, research reports, and other relevant documents to gain a thorough understanding of the material. Data analysis was carried out based on the method developed by Miles and Huberman, which includes four main steps through a data reduction process, where irrelevant data is removed to focus on important information related to empowerment by change agents in Indonesia, then presenting data organized based on empowerment categories that is identified, as well as the data analysis process using appropriate social theories, and finally concluding the data that has been analyzed.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Economic Challenges in the Era of Society 5.0

The development of Society Era 5.0, which has begun to be adapted throughout the world, has had a tremendous impact on all sectors of the countries that apply it. It cannot be denied that this development has had a significant impact on the growth of a country's development, starting from the political sector, education, and public services, to the community economy. The developments that began to be implemented in 2019 have proven to be able to contribute to the life of the country, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic which forced the government and society within it to start adapting by utilizing technological developments and all kinds of digital platforms to survive emergencies that implement Large-Scale Social Restrictions. (PSBB). The reality is that digital transformation has shifted the pattern of working relationships from face-to-face to slowly changing to a partnership with a virtual model.

As time goes by, the use of technology will become a concern and have an impact on the creation of new social values from Artificial Intelligence (AI) for stakeholders. (Leszkiewicz et al., 2022). The results of an analysis by the Mckinsey Global Institute state that the impact of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 has been very significant, especially in the employment sector where the use of robotic technology has been widely implemented and can eliminate many jobs in the world which is predicted to eliminate 800,000,000 (eight hundred) million) of jobs worldwide by 2030 (Satya, 2018). Of course, hundreds of millions of people will lose their jobs and this will have an impact on people's welfare and the country's economic growth.

Apart from employment problems, the Society 5.0 era also has an impact on the existence of a digital divide where not all people can access the internet, for example, the gap between urban and rural areas in utilizing technology and information infrastructure and adapting to global trends. This happens in several regions in Indonesia with the highest levels of underdevelopment, namely Papua, East Nusa Tenggara, and Sulawesi, which have difficulty accessing the benefits of technological infrastructure and even have low levels of digital literacy, so it is no surprise that the level of welfare is still low compared to other regions in Indonesia.

The isolation of regions in Indonesia has an impact on access to education which is still

inadequate so people's skills are still inadequately trained, especially in the digital and technological realm. Even though the education system has not yet fully adapted to the needs of the Society 5.0 era, the lack of continuous training for the current workforce still hinders the preparation of competent human resources that can compete in the free market. This risks lagging behind economic growth in Indonesia so that the country is less able to take advantage of existing opportunities to improve the economic prosperity of its people.

The entry of the Society 5.0 Era into Indonesia should have a positive impact on economic growth and maximize society's potential. However, these benefits cannot be distributed evenly so only a small portion of society receives the benefits. It causes social gaps to get deeper and wider. It also encourages an inclusive economy so that the government issues an inclusive economic policy in the form of easy access to capital, especially for the lower middle class so that they can improve the economy and meet their daily needs.

Based on Bank Indonesia (BI, 2020), Inclusive finance is needed by the community as an answer to the community's need for the availability of capital according to their needs. It is hoped that the benefits of an inclusive economy will be able to increase economic efficiency and support community financial stability. Utilizing reputable financial services can mitigate the prevalence of shadow banking or unaccountable financial practices commonly encountered by the community. Consequently, such engagement can diminish the social and financial inequities historically experienced by the populace. In this case, the government encourages the implementation of financial inclusion in stages through recipients of government social program assistance and migrant workers in the form of savings, business credit, and so on.

Another challenge that Indonesia must face in adopting Society 5.0 is strengthening data security and privacy. As is known, this era even brings the vision of integrating technology and the internet to make it easier for the government and society to improve public services. However, the use of digital technology can also pose risks regarding the privacy and security of personal data. Lack of legal accommodation for violations of privacy and personal data can add to the complexity of challenges in the digital world. For example, the hacking case experienced by Indonesia is the leak of personal data, where there have been 95 cases since 2019-2023 with millions of data successfully hacked and sold to dark forums. (CNN, 2023). It shows that the lack of preparedness for legal safeguards in Indonesia also involves the security of people who will be harmed if their data is stolen. Therefore, follow-up action is needed so that similar incidents do not happen again and strict and impartial law enforcement is needed against every criminal who harms the state and its people.

Apart from regulatory issues, the challenges resulting from the adoption of the industrial model in several regions appear to have a significant impact on the environment. Economic growth is increasing in industrial areas because they can absorb a lot of workers. So that a region can grow and adapt to technological changes so that it remains relevant in this competitive world, which includes digital transformation in companies in the form of product and service innovation. The model requires large investments and changes in the organizational structure so that if someone can no longer adapt, they will easily be eliminated from the business world. This causes unemployment to rise and poverty to increase again

The environment as an important part of a community will be affected when an area turns into an industrial area. Therefore, it is hoped that technology adoption will not harm the environment in the transition period to the Society 5.0 era which increasingly pays attention to sustainability and reducing the negative impact of business on the environment. In fact, there are still many industries that do not process their waste properly and dump waste into the community, causing problems related to health and pollution. One thing that happens in

Indonesia is environmental pollution by PT. SIPP is a palm oil factory located in Riau Province in 2022. PT. SIPP has been proven to dispose of waste directly into the environment, the wastewater treatment installation (IPAL) does not comply with Environmental Management Efforts and Environmental Monitoring Efforts (UKL-UPL), and the company even does not have a waste management permit so it pollutes river water and damages the surrounding environment (MENLHK, 2023).

It can be discerned that an insufficiency in preparedness for the Society 5.0 epoch may exert an unchecked impact on the societal fabric. Therefore, in addressing these challenges, the Indonesian government must foster collaboration with industrial sectors, educational bodies, and the broader community in the deployment of technology. This endeavor should be paralleled by the formulation and execution of policies that are both inclusive and sustainable, alongside initiatives aimed at augmenting digital literacy, ensuring equitable distribution of infrastructure, and the empowerment of communities. Such measures are vital for enhancing access to education and information technology infrastructure, thereby improving the overall quality of life.

Government Policy in Empowering Communities

In facing digital challenges, the government ought to create policies to strengthen the community's economy and achieve equality. Here, the government needs a comprehensive and multidimensional policy. Enhancing digital infrastructure can reduce disparities so that internet access can be equal and affordable for all regions, including rural areas and underdeveloped areas such as Papua, East Nusa Tenggara, and Sulawesi. It will enable people to take advantage of digital technology and internet access to earn more income and promote business, as well as enrich their knowledge through existing internet access.

Then educational reform is needed that focuses on developing digital skills and technology is very important. This includes tailored curricula to prepare students with the skills needed for the future and retraining programs for the existing workforce to upgrade their skills in line with industry needs. Empowerment itself starts from informal education and training for the public by identifying the potential of human resources and natural resources in society. In the identification process that applies a story-based approach, it seems to be able to produce pieces of social history where it reveals the existence of assets in society, both hidden and inactive so that it can produce additional assets that can support the community's economy. (Raharjo et al., 2023).

The next step in empowerment is through mapping regional potential where assets are an important part of the investment owned by a region. Mapping is performed to determine programs that are accurate and on target. It is also initial capital for the community to be able to develop the potential of their region (Haanurat et al., 2022). The results of this mapping include the potential of the region as a whole, including analyzing the potential of human and natural resources, government structure, local economy, the existence of local institutions or agencies, transportation access, as well as agricultural and livestock capital. This will later support empowerment and stimulation of the local economy in developing creative industries and promotion through digital tourism.

Third, to encourage inclusive economic growth, the government must provide incentives for companies that implement innovative technologies that support job creation and the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). It can enable MSMEs to overcome obstacles in business expansion due to limited access to capital. This financial inclusion also offers affordable capital services with lower transaction costs and competitive interest rates, thereby enabling MSMEs to save, plan, and invest finances efficiently, with effective cash flow

management. By utilizing financial technology, this policy allows the public, especially business actors, to carry out transactions with customers in various locations easily, while financial institutions providing fintech services increase credibility to open business opportunities for MSMEs.

Here, the development of policies and regulations that can support innovation in the Society 5.0 era needs to be facilitated by the government considering that technological progress is a reality that cannot be avoided as time goes by. So to prevent the negative impacts from spreading further, strong regulations regarding privacy and data security must be introduced to protect individual rights, while encouraging innovation. The government must also facilitate industry adaptation to technological change through policy support, access to funding for innovation, and building an ecosystem that supports collaboration between technology start-ups, large companies, and research institutions. Flexible but firm policies and regulations are needed to navigate between advancing innovation and preventing social and economic risks that may arise.

The development of legislation primarily focuses on accommodating problems that often arise in the digital world. Regulations relating to personal data in Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Personal Data Management Requirements should be amended so that the articles therein can be more relevant to the needs of society in the Society 5.0 era and speed up the implementation of Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Data Protection Personally so that in the future the government will be more responsible in managing public data, and crime can be handled optimally.

Finally, sustainability must be a core part of all technology initiatives, ensuring that economic development does not occur at the expense of the environment. With this holistic and collaborative approach, the Indonesian government can help society not only overcome the challenges of Society 5.0 but also use them for mutual progress.

4. CONCLUSION

The synthesis derived from the preceding analysis elucidates that the obstacles confronting Indonesia in its transition to the Society 5.0 paradigm are multifaceted, encompassing employment issues, digital disparities, infrastructural preparedness, data security, and environmental repercussions. Forecasts associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution anticipate the obsolescence of millions of jobs, thereby engendering apprehensions regarding societal well-being and economic progression. The digital divide that exists between urban and rural locales, coupled with challenges in infrastructure readiness and digital literacy, stand as significant barriers to the realization of equitable prosperity. Additionally, the absence of robust legal frameworks for the protection of personal data and cybersecurity further complicates the array of challenges encountered.

In overcoming these negative impacts, the Indonesian government must take proactive steps in overcoming these challenges through cross-sector collaboration. Building inclusive digital infrastructure, education reform that emphasizes digital skills, and developing inclusive economic policies are the main keys. Initiatives such as financial inclusion and community empowerment through regional potential mapping are expected to increase access to capital and support sustainable economic growth. In addition, strict law enforcement against cybercrime and regulations that support data security are important to ensure the transition to Society 5.0 runs safely. Adoption of responsible and environmentally friendly technology is also a priority, considering the negative impact of industrial activities on the environment. The government needs to encourage sustainable business practices and investment in green technology to minimize negative impacts on the environment.

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