

## GOVERNMENT SCIENCE PARADIGM: INNOVATION IN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

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### **Abstract**

The paradigm of regional government administration has undergone changes with innovations in the government system. The goal of this innovation is to raise regional government administration's effectiveness. Regional governments have the freedom to innovate in the administration of regional government without having to worry about legal issues, as long as the innovation does not cause negative impacts and remains in accordance with the applicable government administration mechanisms. Innovation in regional government administration includes various forms of reform carried out to improve performance and public services at the regional level. The scope of this innovation includes improving public services, community participation and empowerment in addition to boosting regional competitiveness. Innovation in government can also be viewed from the standpoint of government function is carried out in 3 ways, namely service innovation, development innovation and community empowerment innovation. The concept of innovation, which is then outlined in a policy, is considered to have provided sufficient space for regional governments to implement several reforms in each regional government administration to enable the implementation of good governance procedures.

**Keywords:** paradigm, government science, innovation, local government

### **INTRODUCTION**

Currently, innovation has become a necessity for central and regional governments. Innovation is born from the government's work habits or culture which still uses old methods so that improvements to public services

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are still ongoing. It is certain that a monotonous and uncreative government work culture will impact the quality of public services that are old, complicated and transactional. The public has also participated in providing criticism and suggestions regarding public services that should be more effective and efficient. This shows the need to strengthen innovative work culture at the regional government level. Bojang, M. B. (2021) said that public administration exists to facilitate the work of government bureaucracy. When talking about convenience, public administration cannot be separated from the context or circumstances/environment in which it is located and the party that controls it. These two things are ultimately influenced by the paradigm used in the context of responding to today's government environment, so for local governments innovation is a necessity in achieving prosperity and welfare of the people in their regions.

Reflecting on Indonesia's position in the 2017 Global Innovation Index which placed Indonesia in 87th position out of 127 countries with a score of 30.10 on a scale of 0-100 and considering that Indonesia's level of competitiveness is still in the 36th rank range, of course great efforts are needed to increase its competitiveness. competition does not continue to decline, one of which is strengthening the innovation sector. This means that innovation plays an important role in increasing the nation's competitiveness to accomplish effective governance. One facet of bureaucratic culture that has a big impact on how well bureaucratic reform works is innovation. Innovation hasn't, however, taken center stage in Indonesian bureaucratic culture yet. Establishing an inventive government still looks like a bad idea because there is always space for improvement in terms of understanding of the need to innovate, even yet innovation is crucial to achieving "good governance" and should occur at all levels of government (Rohayati et al., 2022).

Departing from the government paradigm, this article describes the existence of regional government in implementing government innovation. The innovations carried out are for the needs of government organizations and at the time to carry out government functions. All of this is done in order to respond to an increasingly competitive government environment and realize good governance (Susanty et al., 2019). This article discusses several things, the first part discusses the government paradigm and the public administration paradigm. In the second part, the author outlines several perspectives on innovation in government administration. This perspective is

connected with government functions in the context of implementing regional autonomy.

According to Meijer et al., (2019) the paradigm of regional government administration has undergone changes with innovation in the government system. With regard to Indonesia's regional government system, this innovation seeks to enhance the effectiveness of regional government administration and provide it additional context. In the regional government administration paradigm, there is a shift from government to governance. This means that the government no longer holds a monopoly in administering the state, but must share its role with the private sector and civil society.

These changes also have an impact on the pattern of relationships among society, the private sector, and the government. The administration of regional governments might be made more innovative in order to regional competitiveness. This innovation can cover various aspects, such as local government governance innovation, public service innovation, and other innovations in accordance with local government affairs (Zaidi et al., 2022).

The government hopes that regional innovation can increase the competitiveness and performance of government administrators, so that regions can experience progress. In the context of innovation in regional government administration, it is important to pay attention to the regulations and policies that regulate this innovation (Hildreth, 2021). One of the relevant regulations is Government Regulation (PP) Number 38 of 2017 concerning Regional Innovation. This regulation opens up opportunities for regions and their citizens to be creative and create new breakthroughs in regional government administration.

In practice, innovation in regional government administration can involve various parties, including regional government institutions, research institutions, and mentoring institutions such as LPPSP (Professional Training and Certification Organizing Institution). This innovation can be carried out through developing and strengthening the Regional Innovation System (SIDa) in the regions. In the era of digitalization, innovation in regional government administration can also involve the use of technology and digital data. Digitalization innovation in regional government administration can include innovation in digitalization of public services, innovation in digitalization of government governance, and other forms of digitalization innovation in accordance with regional government affairs (Farida et al., 2020).

In conclusion, the paradigm of regional government administration has undergone changes with innovation. The goal of this innovation is to enhance

regional government administration's performance and offer more meaning in the context of the regional government system in Indonesia. This innovation can cover various aspects, such as innovation in regional government governance, innovation in public services, and other innovations in accordance with regional government affairs. It is important to pay attention to the regulations and policies that regulate innovation in regional government administration, such as Government Regulation Number 38 of 2017 concerning Regional Innovation.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research in-depth investigates the government science paradigm: innovation in local government administration using a literature review approach. The results include a comprehensive understanding of the science paradigm of government and public administration, innovation and the scope of regional government administration. Literature analysis involves an in-depth study of the local government administration innovation literature. With a strong conceptual foundation, this research makes an important contribution to enriching the discussion about what and how the government science paradigm is: innovation in regional government administration.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Government and Public Administration Science Paradigm**

The government science paradigm is a basic theory or ontology of administration with a relatively fundamental perspective on truth values, concepts, and methodology as well as the approaches used. The change in paradigm is caused by the development of thinking by administrative scientists regarding objections because doubts about the truth they contain have experienced a shift in meaning. In the study of government, government can be seen from 3 (three) paradigms, namely first, government as a ruling process, which is characterized by the dependence of government and society on a person's leadership capacity; second, government as a governing process, which is characterized by government practices based on ethical consensus between government leaders and the community; and thirdly, government as an administering process which is characterized by the development of a strong and comprehensive legal system through the interaction of power controlled by an administrative system that works in an orderly and orderly manner (Van Buuren et al., 2020).

Henry, N. (2017) stated that paradigms in the science of government and public administration have changed over time. This paradigm reflects experts' points of view regarding the role and challenges of public administration in responding to emerging problems. This paradigm shift also involves the separation between political and administrative affairs as an effort to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of state management.

Initially, public administration science was separated from political science with a focus on efficiency and economics in providing public services. However, this paradigm has experienced a shift towards a new, more holistic paradigm. This new paradigm includes concepts such as New Public Service, New Public Management, and Good Governance.

The New Public Service paradigm emphasizes the importance of public services that are oriented towards the interests of society, not just efficiency and economy. This New Public Service paradigm directly emphasizes the need for public involvement in every government process. This is based on an argument that every activity is not limited to State institutions when acting in the public interest. This means that all parties, including the government, private sector, and civil society, must develop and carry out public interests. In the end, interactions with the government can be more flexible while also affecting societal fairness and welfare. The idea that every action in the public interest depends on more than just State institutions is the foundation for the involvement of numerous (public) actors in the management of public affairs. This means that all parties, including the government, private sector, and civil society, must develop and carry out public interests (Ikeanyibe et al., 2017).

Furthermore, On the other side, the New Public Management Paradigm places a strong emphasis on applying management concepts to public administration in order to raise the effectiveness and productivity of public institutions. The paradigm of New Public Management stands in contrast to the paradigm of Old Public Management. The New Public Management paradigm places a strong emphasis on customer-oriented services, decentralization of management power, adoption of fundamental quasi-market mechanisms, and control mechanisms for government policy output. This paradigm adopts the advantages of private sector organizational management techniques to be implemented in the public sector. In this paradigm, we are familiar with the concept of reinventing government put forward by Dennard, L. F. (1996) which views the State (government bureaucracy) as a modern service company that sometimes competes with the private sector, but on the other hand in certain fields monopolizes

services, but still with the obligation to provide maximum service and quality.

The presence of these three components in turn gave birth to the concept of Governance. Governance holds the view that the governance paradigm emphasizes collaboration and networking amongst numerous stakeholders because it is no longer thought that the state or government is the only institution or actor capable of effectively, economically, and fairly providing various forms of public services in the global era (Kalalo et al., 2023). In addition, the Good Governance paradigm emphasizes the importance of good governance in public administration. This concept involves community participation, transparency, accountability, and the supremacy of law in decision making and implementing public policies. The development of paradigms in public administration science also involves the influence of ideas from various countries, such as the United States and England.

According to Popovych et al., (2020), based on the administrative paradigm, assessing the existence of regional government can be measured by how much the government carries out its duties and how much involvement the community has in the government process. This paradigm does not abandon the essence of a public bureaucracy which prioritizes the principles of efficiency and effectiveness. Even though bureaucratic practices are attempted to be as advanced as possible, the government bureaucracy itself cannot avoid adapting to the spirit and conditions inherited previously, such as hierarchies that are rooted in civil service culture. Because after all, bureaucracy is quite tied to the cultural conditions of society. Changing bureaucratic culture is not an easy thing, especially since bureaucracy is not yet free from tendencies of aristocracy, feudalism and the arrogance of power. However, if the national leaders have strong political will, it is not impossible to implement improvement efforts because the existence of a hierarchy of authority has an integrative influence, including in the bureaucratic world. These ideas have been adopted and applied in the context of public administration in Indonesia.

The government and public administration science paradigm includes various approaches and theories used to understand, analyze and manage government and public administration. The following are some of the main paradigms in this field (Martinus, 2022):

1. Traditional Paradigm (Orthodox Administration)

Focus: Efficiency, effectiveness and legality in running government.

Approach: This approach focuses on a hierarchical bureaucratic structure, clear division of tasks, strict rules, and formal procedures.

Key Figure: Max Weber with the concept of rational and legal bureaucracy.

## 2. New Public Management Paradigm

Focus: Application of private sector management principles to the public sector to increase efficiency and effectiveness.

Approach: Encourage decentralization, competition, accountability and measurable performance. This approach also emphasizes the importance of responsive and innovative public services.

Key Figures: David Osborne and Ted Gaebler through their book "Reinventing Government."

## 3. Governance Paradigm

Focus: Collaboration and participation between government, private sector and civil society in the policy making and implementation process.

Approach: Prioritize transparency, accountability and public participation in government processes. This approach also emphasizes the importance of networks and partnerships between various actors.

Key Figures: Many researchers contributed, such as R.A.W. Rhodes with the concept of "The New Governance."

## 4. New Public Service Paradigm

Focus: Citizen-oriented public services, emphasizing the values of democracy, citizenship and ethical public services.

Approach: Emphasizes the importance of public values, such as justice, participation and community welfare. In contrast to NPM, NPS rejects the market approach in public services.

Key Figures: Janet V. Denhardt and Robert B. Denhardt through their book "The New Public Service."

## 5. Digital Governance Paradigm

Focus: Information and communication technology is used in government procedures to improve productivity, openness, and public participation.

Approach: Apply e-government, smart cities, and other digital technologies to modernize public services and government processes.

Key Figures: Various researchers and practitioners in the fields of information technology and government.

Each of these paradigms offers a different perspective on how government and public administration should be run, emphasizing certain aspects such as efficiency, participation, public values, and the use of technology.

## **Innovation and Scope of Regional Government Implementation**

In the context of behavior change. A dynamic, ever-evolving environment is directly associated with innovation. According to Kim, Y. (2021), innovation is any concept, behavior, or thing that people see as novel when they move from one unit of adoption to another. Conversely, Suryani (2008:304) asserts that a broad definition of innovation extends beyond just items. Innovation can manifest itself in concepts, procedures, or items that a person views as novel. Changes that are seen as novel by those who are experiencing them are also frequently referred to as innovations. In the context of government practice, creative thought typically comes from outside the bureaucracy itself, from universities as well as the public and private sectors. This aligns with the concepts of governance in the management of regional government. Parties who carry out innovation can originate from the government, DPRD, or the community, according to Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government and Government Regulation Number 38 of 2017 concerning Regional Innovation. Government innovation starts from how the government identifies itself in the current system. Government innovation can be carried out by not separating politics and administration, because government itself is a process that consists of political processes, legal processes and administrative processes (Karataş, 2019).

Innovation in regional government administration includes various forms of reform carried out to improve performance and public services provided on a regional basis. Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government and Government Regulation Number 38 of 2017 concerning Regional invention both control this invention.

According to Ibietan, J. (2019) the scope of innovation in regional government administration includes several aspects, including:

1. **Improving Public Services:** Innovation aims to improve the quality and efficiency of public services provided to the community. This can include the use of information technology, development of online systems, or changes in service processes that are faster and more effective
2. **Community Empowerment and Participation:** Innovation also includes efforts to involve the community in the decision-making process and policy implementation. Community participation can be carried out through mechanisms such as village meetings, communication forums, or programs that encourage active community participation.

3. Increasing Regional Competitiveness: Innovation in regional government administration also aims to increase regional competitiveness in various aspects, such as the economy, tourism, infrastructure and investment. This innovation can involve developing superior programs, collaborating with the private sector, or developing local potential.

Regional governments have the freedom to innovate in the administration of regional government without having to worry about legal issues, as long as the innovation does not cause negative impacts and remains in accordance with the applicable government administration mechanisms. In order to implement regional innovation, the central government and regional governments work together to create solutions to existing problems. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of regional innovations is also carried out to ensure the effectiveness and success of the innovations carried out (Drechsler, 2015). With innovation in regional government administration, it is hoped that better governance, more effective public services and increased community welfare at the regional level can be created.

So, innovation in regional government administration includes various forms of reform carried out to improve performance and public services at the regional level. The scope of this innovation includes improving public services, community empowerment and participation, as well as increasing regional competitiveness. Government innovation can also be seen from the perspective of government function, so innovation is carried out in 3 ways, namely service innovation, development innovation and community empowerment innovation. In that context, Islam, F. (2015) describes the duties of government. In general, the main tasks of government include:

1. Protect the nation's security from any potential external threats and put an end to internal uprisings that might result in the violent overthrow of the established administration.
2. Prevent violence among community members to uphold order and allow for the peaceful transition of any societal changes.
3. Ensure that each and every member of society is treated fairly, regardless of the circumstances leading up to their existence.
4. Carrying out public works and providing services in areas that cannot be carried out by non-governmental institutions, or those It would be better if it was done by the government.
5. Work to enhance social welfare by providing for the underprivileged, looking after the aged, disabled, and neglected children, housing the

homeless and directing them toward constructive endeavors, and other similar activities.

6. Put into practice economic policies that help the larger community. These include regulating the rate of inflation, fostering the development of new jobs, advancing both domestic and international trade, and implementing other measures that directly provide greater economic resilience for the nation and its citizens.
7. Put laws into place to protect the environment and natural resources, like water, land, and forests.

These seven government tasks can be grouped into 3 government functions. These three functions include the service function, empowerment function and development function. Implementation of the service function will produce Development will lead to affluence in society, empowerment will promote community independence, and justice in society, considering that the condition of society continues to develop, bringing implications of increasing community demands to obtain better services, in terms of quality and quantity, along with increasingly critical of various government policies.

Innovation in regional government administration is very important to improve efficiency, effectiveness and quality of public services. The scope of regional government administration covers various broad and complex aspects. The following is an explanation of innovation and the scope of regional government administration.

According to Hammerschmid et al., (2024) innovation in regional government administration:

1. E-Government and Digitalization of Public Services

Implementation: Application of technology for information and communication to deliver public services online.

Benefits: Increases accessibility, reduces bureaucracy, and speeds up the service process.

Examples: Making electronic KTPs, online licensing services, and paying local taxes online.

2. Smart Cities

Implementation: Use of smart technology to manage city resources and improve the quality of life of its citizens.

Benefits: Efficiency in energy use, better traffic management, and increased safety.

Examples: Smart transportation systems, technology-based waste management, and automatic street lighting.

### 3. One Stop Integrated Service

Implementation: Integrating various public services in one place to facilitate public access.

Benefits: Reduces the time and costs required to access various government services.

Example: Integrated service office that provides services for making business permits, population administration and other permits.

### 4. Policy and Regulatory Innovation

Implementation: Formulation of policies that are flexible and adaptive to changing community needs.

Benefits: Guarantee regulations that are responsive and support economic growth and community welfare.

Example: Regulations that support the development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), as well as environmentally friendly policies.

Naim Azimi, M., & Reza Farzam, M. (2019) stated that the scope of regional government administration is as follows:

#### 1. Implementation of General Administration

Manage government administration, regional finances and public services to the community.

Examples: Population administration, regional budget management, and licensing services.

#### 2. Implementation of Regional Development

Plan, implement and evaluate regional development programs.

Examples: Infrastructure development, local economic development, and social welfare programs.

#### 3. Implementation of Public Services

Providing services needed by the community in various fields.

Examples: Health services, education, transportation and environmental cleanliness.

#### 4. Management of Natural Resources and the Environment

Manage and preserve natural resources and the environment in regional areas.

Examples: Forest management, waste management, and conservation programs.

#### 5. Law Enforcement and Security

Maintain order, security and law enforcement in the regional area.

Examples: Collaboration with police officers, enforcement of regional regulations, and community security programs.

6. Community and Social Welfare Increasing community capacity and welfare through various empowerment programs.

Examples: Skills training, poverty alleviation programs, and women's empowerment.

Innovation in regional government administration plays an important role in improving the quality of public services and regional development, as well as ensuring that government can run more effectively and efficiently.

## **CONCLUSION**

Regional governments have the freedom to innovate in the administration of regional government without having to worry about legal issues, as long as the innovation does not cause negative impacts and remains in accordance with the applicable government administration mechanisms. In order to implement regional innovation, the central government and regional governments work together to create solutions to existing problems. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of regional innovations is also carried out to ensure the effectiveness and success of the innovations carried out. With innovation in regional government administration, it is hoped that better governance, more effective public services and increased community welfare at the regional level can be created.

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The concept of innovation which is then outlined in a policy is considered to have provided sufficient space for regional governments to implement several reforms in each regional government administration to enable the implementation of good governance procedures. The fact that this policy exists demonstrates that the goal of regional innovation is to accelerate the achievement of community welfare while also enhancing the effectiveness of regional government administration. Innovation will be successful if society has the ability to reach it. Innovation means nothing and does not make a difference if it is not widely used by the public. It is hoped that the many

innovations that have been created can help government administrators in carrying out their duties and functions.

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