

Analysis Of Local Power Structured And Change Social In Indonesia Within The Context Of Development

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Abstract: Development is not only understood as a process of economic growth and physical development, but also as a process of development in social aspects influenced by power relations among various actors in society. This article aims to analyze local power structures in social change within the context of development at the local level, as well as their implications for development policy and social change in Indonesia. This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive-analytical design through a literature review of various scientific sources relevant to the study of political elites, local power structures, and social change. The analysis employs an elite theory perspective to explain how elite groups hold dominant positions in public decision-making processes and control the distribution of development resources. The findings indicate that local power structures are formed through interactions among political elites, bureaucracy, economic actors, and community leaders who build both formal and informal power networks, such as political patronage and patron-client relationships. This condition often gives rise to the phenomenon of *elite capture* which can influence the direction of development policies and potentially exacerbate social inequality. Therefore, more inclusive and participatory development is needed so that development policies can promote fairer and more sustainable social change in society

Keywords: Local Power Structure; Social Change; Development.

1. Introduction

Development is essentially not only understood as an effort for economic growth or mere physical development, but also as a political and social process involving interactions among various actors and changes in the structure of society. From a sociological sociologi of development, development is related to the dynamics of social change, including changes in values, norms, and social structures in society as times evolve. Furthermore, development is also related to changes in political institutions, public policy, and the distribution of power within the political system that influence decision-making processes and the direction of development policies. In the context of regional development, local governments along with local actors such as political elites, bureaucracy, community leaders, and civil society groups play an important role in determining the direction and priorities of development according to the needs of local communities.

In political and sociological studies, elites are understood as a small group of individuals in society who possess certain advantages such as power, wealth, knowledge, or strategic positions, enabling them to influence the direction of social and political life. This group generally occupies the top positions in social and political structures and has the ability to influence or control decisions that have broad impacts on society. Haryanto explains that elites are groups that have greater roles and influence compared to other members of society due to their specific advantages, so they are able to determine the direction of social and political life in society.

Direction of public policy. This elite group occupies strategic positions in the social and governmental structure, enabling them to influence the course of development and decision-making processes at the regional level. From the perspective of elite theory, power in society tends to be concentrated in a small number of individuals who possess greater resources, capabilities, and social standing than the general public, resulting in stratification between the ruling elite and the larger but less influential masses. The power relationship between elites and the public is often asymmetric, with elites acting as decision-makers, mediators, and gatekeepers of access to development resources, while the public participates in political processes often mobilized by local elites.

The influence of elite interests in the formulation of development policy is often evident through the dominance of elite groups in decision-making processes and control over political and economic resources. In many development contexts, the phenomenon of *elite capture* occurs when elite groups manage to dominate decision-making processes and leverage development policies to obtain greater benefits than the general public. This condition is reinforced by political patronage practices and patron-client relationships, wherein political elites distribute resources, assistance, or access to government programs to their support base in exchange for political loyalty.

Furthermore, power networks and political alliances among elites often form through relationships between government actors, businesspeople, and political figures who share common interests in determining the direction development policy. Thus, elite interests, patronage practices, and power networks play a significant role in shaping the direction of development policy while also determining the priorities of development programs at both local and national levels. Development policy plays a crucial role in shaping the social structure of society, as it determines how resources, economic opportunities, and access to public services are distributed within society. In many cases, development oriented towards economic growth without inclusive social policies can widen social inequality, particularly in terms of income distribution, access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, thereby reinforcing social stratification between the rich and the poor. Such inequality is also linked to the limited access of certain groups to development resources and opportunities, ultimately affecting the level of public participation in development decision-making processes. In the context of public policy, public participation is a key element because citizen involvement in the formulation of policy can enhance legitimacy quality and accountability of policies government serta help bridge the gap between government and society.

Furthermore, community participation in development programs can also drive the success of policy implementation because communities directly involved in planning and execution tend to have a sense of ownership over the program. The interaction between elites and society in this development process can potentially generate social change, both in the form of improved welfare and equal opportunities and the reproduction of inequality if development policies remain dominated by the interests of certain elite groups. Therefore, integrating economic and social policies oriented toward social justice is crucial to creating more inclusive development that can reduce inequality in society.

Therefore, the discussion of this study focuses on understanding the power structure of elites, relations among local actors, and their implications for development policy and social change. This is very important considering that previous studies on elite power at the local level generally have limitations because they tend to focus on formal actors such as local government officials or specific political figures, without deeply exploring broader power networks involving economic, social, and kinship relations. As a result, the actual dynamics of how development decisions at the local level are influenced by elite interactions often remain inadequately captured. Therefore, an analysis of local power structures is essential to understand how the political process of development unfolds, including how resources, policies, and economic opportunities are distributed and which actors hold dominant influence in that process. This study aims to examine more deeply the configuration and relations of elite power at the local level and how these relations influence the direction and practice of development. Thus, this study is expected to provide theoretical and empirical contributions to the study of local politics and development,

particularly in enriching understanding of the role of elite networks and power structures in shaping the dynamics of policy and development practice at the regional level in Indonesia

2. Method

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive-analytical approach because it is able to examine complex social and political phenomena, particularly power relations, elite networks, and interactions among actors in development decision-making. Methodologically, this study was conducted through a literature review by examining various scientific sources such as books, journal articles, and research reports relevant to the study of political elites and local power structures. The analysis uses the perspective of elite theory, which explains that elite groups hold a dominant position in determining the direction of public policy. Furthermore, the local power approach, interactions between political elites, bureaucracy, economic actors, and community leaders shape a power configuration that influences the distribution of development resources, which is often asymmetrical between elites and the community. This study also highlights the phenomenon *elite capture*, namely the dominance of elite groups in development decision-making processes that can potentially reinforce social inequality if the distribution of development benefits does not occur fairly. Therefore, this study emphasizes that development is not only an economic process but also a political process influenced by power structures and relationships among actors in society.

3. Literature review

3.1 Elite Theory

Elite theory is one of the important approaches in political science and political sociology that explains how power in society is essentially controlled by a small group of individuals who have greater positions, resources, and influence than the majority of society. According to this theory, society is always divided into two main groups: the elite group that holds power and the mass group that constitutes the majority of the population but has less political influence. Elite theory emerged as a critique of the view that emphasizes equality of power in democratic systems. Elite thinkers argue that in practice, political power is never truly in the hands of the entire population. Instead, power is always concentrated in a small group that has access to economic, political, and social resources, enabling them to control decision-making processes in society. Classical elite theory developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries through the works of Italian thinkers such as Vilfredo Pareto, Gaetano Mosca, and Robert Michels. These thinkers sought to explain how power in society always resides in a small, well-organized group.

Vilfredo Pareto explained that in every society there is a small group of individuals who possess certain abilities, intelligence, or qualities that place them at the highest positions in the social structure. This group is called the elite. According to Pareto, the elite are individuals who occupy the highest positions in various fields of life such as

politics, economics, and intellect. Pareto also introduced the concept of circulation elite (*circulation of elites*) which explains that elite power is not permanent. In the course of history, old elites are by thro shift of power. This change occurs due to changes in social conditions the ability to kemampuan untuk) to explain the structure of power in society. According to Mosca, in every society there are always two main groups: a small ruling group and a large governed group. The ruling group is called the political class because they have organizational skills and resources that enable them to control political power. *According to Michels, the larger and more complex an organization is, the greater the likelihood of oligarchy emerging within that organization.* Therefore, fully egalitarian democracy is difficult to achieve because organizational structure always generates a concentration of power in certain elites. In the mid-20th century, elite theory further developed through the work of political scientists in the United States. One of the key figures in the development of modern elite theory is C. Wright Mills, who proposed the concept of the power elite. According to Michels, the larger and more complex an organization, the greater the likelihood of an oligarchy emerging within it. Therefore, a fully egalitarian democracy is difficult to achieve because organizational structures always result in the concentration of power in certain elites. In the mid-20th century, elite theory developed further through the work of political scientists in the United States. One of the key figures in the development of modern elite theory was C. Wright Mills, who put forward the concept of the power elite.

Mills argues that in modern society, political power is concentrated in a small group of elites from three main institutions: the political elite, the economic elite, and the military elite. These three elite groups are interconnected and cooperate in shaping political and economic policies within society. From Mills' perspective, elite status is determined not only by individual personal qualities but primarily by the positions they hold within political and economic institutional structures. Individuals who occupy strategic positions in government institutions, large corporations, or the military have the ability to influence decisions that have broad impacts on society.

In the study of political sociology, the political elite has several key characteristics. First, the elite is relatively small in number compared to the population as a whole. Second, the elite typically has a higher level of organization, enabling them to coordinate their actions effectively. Third, the elite has greater access to economic resources, information, and political power. Fourth, the elite tends to be aware of their shared interests, which allows them to maintain their positions of power.

Furthermore, the political elite usually holds key positions in government institutions, political parties, or economic organizations that influence public policy. Consequently, the elite plays a crucial role in determining the direction of political and social development in society. Although elite theory has had a significant impact on political science, it has also faced various criticisms. One major criticism is that elite theory is considered too pessimistic about the ability of the general public to participate in the political process. The theory tends to view the masses as a passive group that merely follows elite decisions. Additionally, some political scientists argue that power in society is not always concentrated in a single dominant elite group. In modern democratic

systems, multiple interest groups compete to influence public policy, so power can be dispersed among various social groups.

Elite theory explains that in any society, there is always a small group of individuals who hold greater power than the majority. This theory emphasizes that political power tends to be concentrated among elite groups that possess resources, organization, and strategic positions within the social and political structure. While the theory provides important insights into the distribution of power in society, it has also been criticized for overemphasizing elite dominance and underemphasizing the role of public participation in democratic systems.

3.2 The Concept of Power and Local Power Structure

Power is an important concept in the study of political science and political sociology, referring to the ability of individuals or groups to influence the actions, decisions, or policies of others within a social and political system. From a social science perspective, power does not only derive from formal positions in government but also from control of economic resources, social networks, and access to strategic institutions within society. In modern society, power is often concentrated in certain groups that have strong economic resources and social networks. These groups can influence the direction of public policy through their relationships with government institutions, policy organizations, and economic institutions they control. Power in society is not always absolute. Other groups, such as labor unions, civil society organizations, and advocacy groups, still have opportunities to influence policy through political mobilization, public pressure, and collective action within democratic systems. Thus, power in modern society can be understood as the result of interactions among various social actors with different interests and resources. Local power structure refers to the pattern of relationships among actors who hold influence in decision-making processes at the regional or community level. In governance systems, local power is not only vested in regional government institutions but also involves various other actors such as business players, interest groups, community organizations, and the media.

In the study of state and local governance, it is explained that local government institutions play a crucial role in managing various public policies directly affecting people's lives, such as education, local taxes, and other public. Formal institutions in local governance typically include regional legislative bodies, regional executive institutions such as governors or mayors, and regional judicial institutions that carry out legal functions and oversight of public policies. The existence of these institutions forms a formal power structure that determines how political decisions at the regional level are made. However, in practice, local power structure is not solely determined by formal institutions. Relationships between local governments and interest groups and economic actors also play a significant role in shaping regional development policy directions.

In analyzing power structures, the concept of the power elite becomes an important approach to understanding the distribution of power in society. This elite group typically consists of leaders of large corporations, government officials, and influential figures in policy organizations or think tanks. Through their social and institutional networks, elite groups can shape policy agendas that affect political decision-making processes. In the

context of local power, economic elites such as large entrepreneurs or company owners often have significant influence over regional development policies. They can collaborate with local government officials in determining the direction of economic development, investment, and other public policies. Local power structures are dynamic and can change in line with political, economic, and social developments in society. In federal systems such as that of the United States, local governments have considerable leeway to develop policies according to local conditions and community needs.

According to Wilson and colleague the federal system This allows state and local governments to serve as policy laboratories, where various policy innovations can be tested before being implemented more broadly at the national. However, variations in political power across regions can lead to differences in the quality of local democracy. Some areas are able to create more participatory and inclusive systems of governance, while others may be dominated by certain elite groups that have significant influence over the political process. To that end, the concept of power and local power structures shows that the political process at the regional level involves various actors with differing interests. Power is not only held by formal government institutions, but also by networks of economic elites, social organizations, and interest groups that have access to strategic resources. Therefore, analyzing local power structures is essential to understanding how public policy is formulated and how democracy functions within society.

3.3 Political Patronage and Elit Capture

Political patronage is a concept in political science that explains the exchange relationship between political actors who hold power and individuals or groups who provide political support. In a patronage system, this relationship is reciprocal: the party that holds power or political resources often called the patron—provides various forms of benefits such as public office, access to state resources, development projects, or economic assistance to the other party, known as the client. In return, the client offers political loyalty, electoral support, or legitimacy to the patron's power. This patron-client relationship often serves as a key mechanism for maintaining political power and building support networks within the political system. In political practice, patronage typically develops in societies marked by unequal access to economic and political resources. Elite groups with wealth, education, or positions in state institutions have greater opportunities to control the distribution of these resources. Through patronage, elites can build political networks that allow them to sustain their influence in the political and economic system. These networks often involve various actors such as politicians, bureaucrats, businesspeople, and community leaders who collaborate to maintain the existing power structure.

The concept of political patronage is also closely related to elite theory in social science. From a political sociology perspective, elites are defined as a small group within society that holds greater power or influence compared to other groups. Elites typically control economic resources, political power, and access to decision-making institutions. Consequently, elites have a greater ability to influence public policy and the direction of development in a country. One important concept related to elite dominance in the political and development process is *elite capture*. "Elite capture" refers to a situation

where elite groups use their power, resources, or institutional positions to dominate decision-making processes and the distribution of public resources, so that the benefits of policies or development programs are enjoyed more by the elite than by the general public. In the study of political economy of development, elite capture is often described as a consequence of unequal access to power. When certain groups have greater access to power—for instance through wealth, social networks, or positions in institutions state they have the ability to disproportionately influence the distribution of public resources. This leads public policy to often favor elite groups over the broader population.

Elite capture can also occur through various institutional mechanisms and social mechanisms. One such mechanism is elite control over state institutions such as the bureaucracy, military, or legal bodies. In many developing countries, these institutions are often inherited from colonial systems and continue to function as tools that enable elites to maintain power and control the distribution of economic resources. As a result, the power structures that emerge often reinforce social inequality and hinder inclusive development. Moreover, *elite capture* can also be reinforced through the practice of *rent-seeking*, which is the effort to obtain economic benefits through manipulation of policy or state institutions without creating productive economic value. In such situations, political and economic elites often use their power to gain access to public resources such as government contracts, land concessions, or economic monopolies.

This practice not only strengthens elite dominance in the political system but also hinders growth ekonomi and pemerataan of public welfare. The relationship between political patronage and *elite capture* is very close because patronage often serves as the mechanism that enables elite capture to occur. Through patron-client networks, political elites can control access to state resources and distribute them to groups loyal to them. Thus, patronage not only functions as a tool for mobilizing political support but also as a mechanism for reproducing elite power.

3.4 Theory of Social Change in Development

Social change is a fundamental concept in development studies because development is essentially a process of transforming society toward a more advanced state. From a sociological perspective, social change refers to changes that occur in social structures, patterns of social relations, values, norms, and institutions that govern community life. These changes occur not only in individuals but also in the social system as a whole, influencing how people interact and organize their social lives. According to MacIver and Page, society is essentially a network of social relations. Therefore, social change can be understood as changes in this network of social relations. When patterns of relations between individuals or groups in society change, the social structure of society will also change. This change can be seen in changes in social institutions such as the family, economy, education, and politics.

Social change has several key characteristics. First, social change is a universal phenomenon that occurs in all societies. No society is completely static because change is always part of the dynamics of social life. Second, social change is continuous and unavoidable because society always adapts to developments in the environment, technology, and changes in social values. Third, social change varies in

pace across societies, with modern societies typically experiencing more rapid change than traditional societies. Fourth, social change is a complex phenomenon because it involves various factors such as economics, technology, politics, and culture, which influence each other. In the study of development sociology, social change can occur through various processes. One of the main processes is social evolution, namely the gradual change from a simple society to a more complex one. This concept was influenced by Darwin's theory of evolution, which was later applied to Herbert Spencer's analysis of society. From this perspective, society develops through a process of differentiation and specialization of social institutions that become increasingly complex as society develops.

Furthermore, social change can also occur through a revolutionary process. A revolution is a rapid and fundamental social change within a society. It typically occurs when there is high social tension or public dissatisfaction with the existing system. Under these conditions, change can be drastic and alter the political, economic, and social systems as a whole. In the context of development, social change is influenced by various factors such as demographic, economic, technological, cultural, and media factors. Technological developments, for example, can accelerate changes in the economic structure and lifestyles of a society. Similarly, cultural factors can be both drivers and obstacles to development, depending on the values embraced by the society. Therefore, development is not only an economic process but also a social process involving changes in the values, norms, and social institutions of a society. Therefore, the theory of social change provides an important analytical framework for understanding the development process. Development is understood not only as an improvement in economic indicators but also as a process of social transformation that affects various aspects of society.

4. Result and Discussion

4.1 Elite Power Structure

The elite power structure in the dynamics of development politics at the local level can be understood as a configuration of power relations involving various actors who possess political, economic, social, and cultural resources that enable them to influence the public decision-making process. From the perspective of elite theory, power in society is not distributed evenly, but tends to be concentrated in small groups that hold strategic positions in the social and political structure. This group is known as the elite, namely individuals or groups that have greater influence than other members of society due to certain advantages such as political office, wealth, access to information, or extensive social networks. The classical elite theory proposed by Vilfredo Pareto and Gaetano Mosca explains that in every social system there is always a stratification between the elite group that holds power and the masses who are in a subordinate position, so that important decisions in society are generally in the hands of this elite group. In the context of development politics, elites have a dominant role because they are in a position that allows them to determine the direction of public policy and control the distribution of development resources.

In Indonesia's regional government system, elite power structures are typically formed through interactions between various actors, such as political elites, government bureaucrats, local economic actors or entrepreneurs, and community leaders with social influence at the local level. These interactions shape power configurations that influence the formulation of regional development policies and the distribution of development resources. Political elites, such as regional heads, legislators, or political party leaders, play a crucial role in determining development priorities because they possess formal authority in political decision-making. Meanwhile, economic actors, such as local entrepreneurs, often wield influence through economic relationships and business networks, which can influence the direction of development policies, particularly in regional development projects.

In addition to these formal relationships, elite power structures at the local level are often formed through informal networks such as patronage, kinship, and political alliances. In many cases, political elites establish patron-client relationships with communities or specific groups through the distribution of development resources, social assistance, and access to government programs in exchange for political support. This pattern of relationships demonstrates that elite power is based not only on formal positions but also on their ability to build social and political networks that can strengthen their positions within local power structures (Gideon et al., 2026). In these conditions, elites often have strong control over the development decision-making process, resulting in policies that do not always reflect the needs of the wider community. This phenomenon is known as elite capture, a situation in which elite groups are able to control the development decision-making process and exploit public policy for their own interests.

Elite dominance in local power structures can also influence the level of community participation in the development process. Although regional development normatively encourages community participation in development planning and implementation, in practice, the decision-making process is often still dominated by political and bureaucratic elites who have control over government institutions and access to development resources. This condition can lead to an uneven distribution of development benefits and has the potential to strengthen social inequality within society if development policies favor certain elite groups over the wider community. Therefore, an analysis of elite power structures is crucial for understanding how development policies are formed, how development resources are distributed, and how the dynamics of the relationship between elites and communities influence the process of social change at the local level.

4.2 Relations between local actors

Relations between local actors in the dynamics of development politics are essentially a process of interaction between various groups with different interests, resources, and positions within the regional social and political structure. In the context of regional governance, the main actors involved in the development process include political elites, government bureaucracy, economic actors or local entrepreneurs, as well as community

leaders and civil society groups. The interactions between these actors form a network of power that influences the process of policy formulation, the implementation of development programs, and the distribution of resources at the local level. Development is not only understood as an economic process, but also as a political and social process involving power relations between various actors in society. Therefore, the direction of development policy is often the result of interactions, negotiations, and compromises between these actors.

Within local power structures, political elites, such as regional heads, legislators, and political party leaders, play a strategic role because they possess formal authority to determine development policies and allocate public resources. However, development decisions are not entirely in the hands of formal political actors, as government bureaucracies also play a crucial role in the planning, implementation, and oversight of regional development policies. On the other hand, local economic actors or entrepreneurs often wield significant influence through business networks, investments, and economic ties with local governments. The interaction between political elites, bureaucracies, and economic actors shapes power configurations that influence regional development priorities and determine the development projects undertaken.

Relations between local actors often develop in the form of patronage networks and patron-client relationships, where political elites distribute various resources such as social assistance, access to government programs, or economic opportunities to certain groups in exchange for political support. This pattern of relationships suggests that elite power is based not only on formal positions but also on the ability to build social and political networks that can strengthen their position within local power structures. In these circumstances, political elites often utilize patronage relationships to maintain political influence and expand their support base within society. Furthermore, the relationship between elites and communities in the development process is often asymmetrical, with elites having greater access to information, economic resources, and political networks than the wider community. This situation often results in communities being in a weaker position in the development decision-making process and only participating in development programs determined by political and bureaucratic elites. Nevertheless, community participation remains a crucial element in the development process because citizen involvement in policy formulation can increase the legitimacy and accountability of government policies and strengthen the relationship between government and communities.

In the dynamics of development politics, relations between local actors are not always harmonious but can also be marked by conflicts of interest between various elite groups. These conflicts often arise when various actors have different interests in determining the direction of development policy, for example, between political elites oriented towards electoral interests, economic actors oriented towards economic gain, and communities seeking equitable distribution of development benefits. In some cases, the dominance of certain elite groups within power networks can give rise

to the phenomenon of elite capture, a condition where development policies benefit elite groups more than the wider community.

4.3 Implications for Development Policy and Social Change

The implications of elite power structures and relations between local actors on development policies and social change can be seen in how the process of formulating public policy at the regional level is influenced by the distribution of power among elite groups with access to political, economic, and social resources. From a sociological perspective, development is not only related to economic growth or physical development, but also a social and political process involving changes in institutions, public policies, and power relations within society. Therefore, the direction of development policy often reflects the interests and influence of elite groups involved in the decision-making process. In practice, elite dominance within local power structures can influence the priorities of regional development programs. Political, bureaucratic, and economic elites with strong power networks often determine the direction of development policies based on their own political and economic interests. This situation can lead to development policies being more oriented toward projects that benefit specific groups, such as infrastructure or investment projects with high economic value, but not necessarily directly addressing the needs of the wider community. In such situations, the process of formulating development policies is often the result of a compromise between local governments and economic actors with vested interests in specific development projects.

Furthermore, the dominance of elite groups in the decision-making process can also give rise to the phenomenon of elite capture, a condition where elite groups are able to control the policy formulation process and exploit development policies to gain greater benefits than the wider community. In many development cases, elites have the ability to control access to information, economic resources, and political networks, allowing them to determine the distribution of development resources according to their interests. This condition can reinforce social inequality if the benefits of development are not distributed evenly within society. Another implication of elite dominance in development policy is the emergence of social inequality in society. Development that is oriented more toward elite interests or solely toward economic growth often neglects aspects of social justice and equitable access to development resources. As a result, groups with limited access to education, employment, and economic resources are increasingly left behind compared to groups with greater access to development opportunities. This situation can reinforce social stratification and widen the gap between the rich and the poor in society.

However, development policies also have the potential to drive positive social change if they are designed inclusively and involve community participation in their formulation. Public participation in the development process can increase the

legitimacy of public policies, strengthen government accountability, and ensure that development policies are more responsive to community needs. Furthermore, community involvement in development planning and implementation can also increase the success of development programs because communities have a sense of ownership of the program. Thus, the implications of elite power structures for development policies and social change demonstrate that development is fundamentally a political process heavily influenced by power relations between various actors in society. If power is too concentrated in the hands of certain elite groups, development policies have the potential to reinforce social inequality. Conversely, if the development process involves broader community participation and is supported by inclusive social policies, development can be a vehicle for creating more equitable and sustainable social change in society.

5. Conclusion

Ref Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that development is not only an economic process but also a social process influenced by the power structure and relations between actors in society. This study shows that in the context of development at the local level, power tends to be concentrated in elite groups who have access to political, economic, and social resources, thus playing a dominant role in determining the direction of development policy. The interaction between political elites, bureaucracy, economic actors, and community leaders forms a power configuration that influences the decision-making process and the distribution of development resources. In many cases, this elite dominance can give rise to political patronage practices and the phenomenon of elite capture, which have the potential to cause development policies to favor certain groups and reinforce social inequality in society. However, development also has the potential to encourage more equitable social change if development policies are designed inclusively and involve community participation in the planning and implementation processes. Therefore, understanding elite power structures and relations between local actors is crucial to explaining the dynamics of development politics and to encouraging the creation of more participatory, equitable, and sustainable development policies in society.

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