

Development Planning in Islamic Perspective: New Structure Based on Indonesia Experiences

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Abstract. These studies are directed to find a new design-related structure of the ideal development planning from the Islamic perspective. According to Indonesia's experience in the preparation of appropriate development planning ACT system of national development planning, it was made of a sample as the case showed that the structure of planning is not yet systematically arranged in a clearly structured meanings ranging from the basic values, the position and the interconnectedness between different areas of development. Islam has provided a clear concept and whole related development planning. The basic values that become its Foundation is the aqeedah Islamiyah that Almighty God as the one who Most Wanted, Most Grant and Most Knows the best for human being, while human is obligated to plan as one form of endeavor that will be accountable in the hereafter. Its basic value will become a spirit for the entire planning and will be binding all parties involved in the planning. The orientation of the development is a balance of economic, social and environment within the framework of an adequate spiritual. Based on this thinking, in this paper is presented the initial concept of the planning structure related to the perspective of Islam that includes basic value orientation, development, integration of the fields of the development and preparation of the planning methods through a systems approach.

Keywords: Development Planning, Planning Structure, Islamic Perspective.

1. Introduction

Development planning is still sorely needed for developing countries. Through development planning, the Government took some measures that will hopefully be a correction to the market failure as well as an instrument for the achievement of the final goals of development. The urgency of this planning has been encouraging countries that faithfully hold planning framework sets out a regulatory and policy formulation and implementation of development planning in the country.

Indonesia has already had the ACT concerning the national development planning System (UU No. 25 of 2004). The ACT stated in ranging from principles and development goals, the scope of national development planning, phases of national development planning, preparation and assignment plans, control and evaluation of the implementation of the plans, data and information, institutional. Afterward the ACT would be relegated into the Government Regulation No. 40 about the procedures of the preparation of the national development planning, and it will propel the inception of local regulations on Regional Development Planning System in all provincial and local government districts that existed in Indonesia.

In the factual the structure and substance of development planning on a regional or national level are not clear enough. Based on experience, especially when we reviewed the National Midterm Development Planning year 2010-2014 and Midterm Development Regional Planning year 2008-2013 of West Java Province, we found that structure of planning didn't have consistent structure. Its condition emerge the question about "What is its basic value, orientation, and how its relation among development field?"

Each areas of development is placed parallel, it means that it is not organized according to level of urgency toward the expected development goals, so there is still unclear position of each areas which is the main and which one is as supported areas and also how all of that areas has been interrelated each other and mutually reinforcing. For example, one of the arguments for the importance of planning is foreign aid that

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contains foreign interests, such as gender mainstreaming, good governance and sustainable development that are postulated without clear structure. It seemed that it is already mixed but partially arranged. This study aimed to find the ideal development planning structures that emerge from a brief basic value, a holistic development orientation, and a comprehensive method. In order to obtain the intended structure, it needed to find the other and better schools of thought than that has already been adopted from Western thought. That other and better school of thought is based on Islamic Value. Therefore, this study will be directed to find a new design-related structure of the ideal development planning from the perspective of Islam.

2. Planning Theory

2.1. Development Planning in Conventional Perspective

According to Campbell and Fainstein (1996) planning is a form of intervention that aims to change the course of an event. The problem is, why and in what kind of situation the planners need to intervene in? Todaro emphasized there were four economics and institutional logic which is fundamentally made the importance of development planning, namely: market failure, mobilization and allocation of resources, the impact of behavior or psychological and International Aid (2006). In investigating the market failure, it emerge from the fact that the market has been portrayed by private party and in the factual condition it should have not been occurred as like perfect competition ideal market principle, and with the result that negative externalities occur could make the economy is unable to respond to development issues like income inequality, poverty, stagnation of economic growth, unemployment and damage to the environment.

In these conditions, the government is present to answer and solve these problems through a design that is called planning. Nevertheless, if the market dominance is so powerful in this capitalist economic system regime and it is also reinforced by the democratic political system, it would emerge the question in concerning about effective planning, could the effective planning counter the problems of development?

It is also stated that Campbell and Fainstein (1996) that the central question of planning theory is what role can plan play in developing regions within the constraint of a capitalist political economy and a democratic political system? Until the last writing they did not discuss the exact role that explicitly referred to.

The most powerful planner are supposed to be able to use the resource to cause the amendment as well as being able to remove the separation between public and private sectors. As long as the framework used is the capitalist economic system approach, the planning will ultimately be rendered barren and limited to formality without real meaning. In concerning about mobilization and allocation of the sources, the development planning obviously have the strong argument as an instrument for sorting the utilization of limited resources to match the scale of priorities. However in practice it is not just that simple, especially in determines the scale of priorities and correspond the whole appropriate resource which has been planned. While the impact of behavior or psychological is related to the efforts in gaining public support and driving collective action that can only be formed if there is a planning. The foreign aid is the concerning reason of the importance of planning to extend the development orientation of developing countries. Mostly it implicitly is driven by the founder of the aid.

2.2. Development Planning in Islamic Perspective

Islam in Al-Qur'an had already had the concept of planning in the social structure of the people. Planning is not a new thing in the theological conception of Islam. The Qur'an stated explicitly on *Surah Al-Hashr 18 verse*

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ {18}

O you believer be careful of (your duty to) Allah, and let every soul consider what it has sent on for the tomorrow, and be careful of (your duty to) Allah; surely Allah is aware of what you do.

Imam Al-Ghazali comprehended this verse as that human was ordered to improve themselves in order to increase their faith and let to God Almighty. It should be a continuous improvement process in the human life whereas the process should be gradually improved and being better than the previous one or the past. In

the grammatical meaning of the word “*observe*” according to Al-Ghazali's faith could be postulated that human must take notice of any of the acts that they have been working on, as well as to prepare (to plan) to always do the best for the sake of the future

Shihab in his book of *al-Misbah* (2010) interpretation has written his interpretation of the paragraph that talks about the planning. He said that the word “*waltandzur ' nafsun ma qaddamat lighad*”, has a meaning that human should think of themselves and made the planning of all what the accompanying deeds during their life, so they will have more pleasure in this life.

According to the Hadith, the Prophet said, “a smart person is one who is capable to acts of charity and tallying up the practice of preparing for tomorrow” (HR. At – Tirmidhi [h5]).

In Islamic point of view, the comprehensive planning not only includes how to think strategically (with various tools of thinking), but it is more important in placing the belief or faith to God Almighty as the one of the most Wanted, Most Grant and Most Knowing the best for human, while human is obligated to plan as one form of endeavor.

3. Structure and Mechanism of Development Planning in Indonesia

Based on the ACT on the National Development Planning System that has been reinforced by Act No. 17 of 2007 about the Long-term Development Plan (RPJP), the scope of development encompasses all areas of life such as social, culture and religion, economic, science and technology, infrastructure, politic, defense and security, law and apparatus, regional and spatial, natural resources and environment. Afterward this Long-term Development Planning (RPJP) will be relegated into the medium-term development plan 5 yearly. Furthermore the implementation of medium-term planning will be regulated yearly into the Government Work Plan (Rencana Kerja Pemerintah/RKP and Regional Government Work Plan (Rencana Kerja Pemerintah Daerah/RKPD).

According to that factual condition in Indonesia's National Planning System, the entire areas of life as what we have written above are placed parallel in line. It is arranged without clearly foundation and interrelated among its areas. Based on the research and the observation, we found interesting findings from the contents of the Medium-Term of National Development Planning (Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Menengah Nasional/RPJMN) in 2010-2014, which consists of three books. In first chapter of book two, there is a policy of mainstreaming development i.e. sustainable development, governance, gender and cross-policy areas namely poverty, climate change, marine, children protection. Substantially, it has given the ambiguous impression because of its unsystematic logical framework. In term of sustainable development, it is definitely going to be cross-field and also covers the issue of poverty and climate change. Thus, there is no need to make two grouping policy mainstream and policy across the field. In the political and institutional perspective, the importance of that grouping is in order to encourage the quality of the planning through the coordination and collaboration across ministries and agencies as well as the consideration of aspects that become element of its mainstreaming. Apart from the political side and institutional interest, the planning structure still needs to be reassembled.

The National Development Planning System has objectives in: a) supporting coordination of development among actors b) assures the creation of integration, synchronization, and synergies between both regions, spaces, time, government functions as well as between the centre and regions; c) ensure linkages and consistency between planning, budgeting, implementation, and supervision; d) optimizes the public participation; and e) guarantee the achievement of the use of resources in an efficient, effective, equitable, and sustainable. But in fact, based on the experience of accompanying the process of planning in West Java province over the last 10 years it turned out integration, synchronization, and synergies are extremely difficult to materialize. This is because there is no binder and similarity of orientation.

4. The Islamic Perspective in Development Planning

Valuable lessons from its experience in formulating planning require a reconstruction of the concept of development planning itself. An Islamic perspective on planning as already discussed in the previous section, give a tremendous inspiration to discover a new concept of the planning structure. That a thorough planning

not only includes how to think strategically (with various tools of thinking), but more important is placing the belief/faith to God Almighty as the one of the most Wanted, Most Grant and Most Knowing the best for human being, while a man is obligated to plan as one form of endeavour. This aspect should become the foundation or as the basic or value and spirit for the entire planning and become the binder of all parties that are involved in the planning. It surely concerns to the further ideology that will determine the choice of the economic system in coordinating and holding that planning. This figure below provides an illustration of an Islamic Development Planning as an initial planning model.

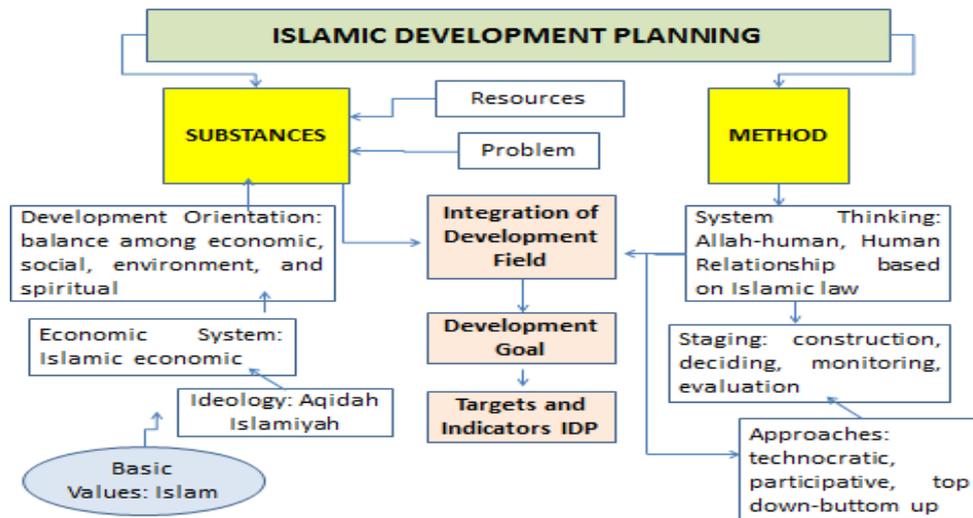


Fig. 1: Islamic Development Planning.

By being based on the aqeedah Islamiyah, the development orientation is to achieve the balancing between material and spiritual. Sharia system has already been arranging the relationship between human and their God Almighty, human among their human relations, and also arranges the relationship between of human with themselves. This faith should become the basic of their system thinking that will define the integration between different areas of development. This is a logical and comprehensive method in construct a plan. The other method in related with the technical aspects is similar to what is already running at this time. Otherwise, technocratic approach, participatory approach and top down-bottom up approach can be kept running. The technocratic approach is used consistently refers to the logical framework of system thinking. The participatory approach, in order to accommodate the input of all stakeholders of development, and a top down approach-bottom up associated hierarchy of governance which is the center of the region. Related stages of development can also be done as is already underway at this time i.e. the preparation, establishment, monitoring and evaluation.

5. Conclusion

Islam has already provided a clear and comprehensive concept related to development planning. The basic values that become its Foundation is the aqeedah Islamiyah that Almighty God as the one who Most Wanted, Most Grant and Most Knows the best for human being, while human is obligated to plan as one form of their endeavour that will be asked as their responsibility in the hereafter. Base on this perspective, the basic value of development orientation should be strongly based on its basic value; however it is not just to fulfill the basic needs but also to achieve happiness in the hereafter. So the process and the substance of the plan will be drawn up and referred to the political economy of Islam. Furthermore, it still needs further studies related to the detriment of economic and political in Islam perspective to get more detailed structure of the emergence of development formula that would be contained in planning document.

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