

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Conclusion

From the results and discussions that the author has explained in the previous chapter, several conclusions can be drawn from this study, including:

1. The results of the qualitative analysis reveal the factors that affect the slow growth of the Human Development Index (HDI) of the Mentawai Islands Regency. Among these factors are accessibility, stunting, traditional mindsets, and limited budget are the factors contributing to the low or slow growth HDI of Mentawai Island Regency.
2. The poverty in Mentawai has a significantly negative impact on the improvement of the Human Development Index (HDI). The decrease in individual or community's lack financial resources and necessities for a minimum standard of living will increase the HDI. Comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and improving access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities are crucial for enhancing the well-being of individuals and the community as a whole.
3. The government expenditure in the education sector has proven to have a positive effect on the HDI in Mentawai. An increase in the budget for education can lead to improved access to education, and increased participation in higher education.
4. Government spending on the health sector has a positive significant effect contribution to the improvement of HDI. The provision of affordable and quality healthcare services can reduce disease rates, improve maternal and child health, and increase life expectancy.

5. Dependency ratio has negative implications for human development. An increase in the dependency ratio often implies a larger proportion of the population relying on the working-age population for support. With a significant portion of the population being dependents, there may be less investment in education and healthcare, both crucial components of human development. Limited access to education and healthcare can hinder the human development.

6. A consistent increase in the Infrastructure Development Index is closely associated with the improvement of the Human Development Index (HDI) in Mentawai. Well-developed infrastructure, including transportation, electricity, and sanitation, creates better access opportunities to education, employment, and healthcare services, thereby supporting an overall enhancement in the quality of life.

5.2. Recommendations

Referring to the discussion and conclusion above, the researcher has several suggestions that can be submitted, namely:

1. Increasing accessibility in Mentawai Islands Regency can reduce the challenges posed by its unique geographical conditions. Enhancing transportation infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and ports and also developing affordable and reliable public transportation services, such as buses, ferries, and boats is important for improving accessibility within Mentawai. To change the traditional mindsets of Mentawai society, the government can encourage economic diversification in Mentawai by promoting new economic sectors that are suitable for the needs and potential of the Mentawai Islands Regency. This could include supporting tourism, modern agriculture, sustainable fisheries, local crafts, and other creative industries. The Mentawai Island Regency faces budget constraints, so it's important to manage finances well. This means reviewing current programs and focusing on urgent needs to spend money wisely. The government can

work with private companies to get more funding. Collaborating with private sectors and community groups is important for supporting sustainable development.

2. To address the issue of stunting, the Mentawai Island Regency government can implement health and nutrition programs focusing on pregnant women, toddlers, and children to reduce stunting. Improving access to maternal and child health services and providing nutritional education to the community can be effective steps. The existing nutrition programs must be continued, and the government should continue to monitor the assistance and services of these stunting programs, ensuring that they are provided according to the target groups, namely pregnant women, and addressing the nutritional improvement of stunted toddlers.

3. Efforts to alleviate poverty should begin with the development of basic infrastructure that can improve quality of life such as roads, clean water, sanitation, and electricity. Opening access to markets and other essential services. Increasing access to education and skills training for local communities to enhance qualifications and job opportunities. Improving access to financial services such as microcredit and savings for local communities. Inclusive financial services can help communities develop their businesses. Utilizing the cultural and natural wealth of Mentawai as assets to enhance sustainable tourism and promote local products.

4. Government expenditure on the education sector must be continue because potentially increase investments in education. This could involve allocating resources to improve the quality of education, and infrastructure, and ensuring accessibility for all, thus contributing to human capital development. Efforts to alleviate poverty such as the development of basic infrastructure and improving access to financial services such as microcredit and savings for local communities

5. Government expenditure on health sector is important to prioritize and potentially increase funding for healthcare services. This could involve improving healthcare infrastructure, increasing access to essential medical services, and focusing on preventive measures to enhance overall health outcomes.

6. Reducing the dependency ratio strategies aimed at either increasing the number of working-age individuals or decreasing the number of dependents (children and elderly) relative to the working-age population. government can Invest in education and skills training programs can help increase the productivity and employability of the working-age population. Better-educated individuals are more likely to enter the workforce and contribute economically, reducing dependency. access to family planning services and reproductive health education can help individuals make informed decisions about family size and spacing of children, thereby reducing the number of dependents per working-age adult. Promote gender equality in education, employment, and decision-making processes to empower women economically and socially.

7. Increasing the infrastructure development index must be continued to develop a comprehensive infrastructure development plan that takes into account the specific needs and challenges of Mentawai. Prioritize investments in critical infrastructure such as transportation, water supply, sanitation, energy, and communication networks. Develop sustainable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power to meet the energy needs of Mentawai. Expand electricity infrastructure to rural areas and promote energy efficiency and conservation measures