

# Common Pool Resources Of Lake Takapan

## Environment degradation, institution, and solution

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*Abstract*—since 1980, the welfare of Dayak population living in the vicinity of Lake Takapan, Palangraya City, has gradually declined. Today, native community living in the middle of Kalimantan Island, Indonesia, cannot afford to meet their daily needs as a result of the serious damage that has been inflicted on Lake Takapan, their main source of livelihood. This research attempted to analyze factor responsible for that phenomenon, with the ultimate goal of identifying policies that can be put in place to remedy the situation. The assumption which underpinned this research was that the quality of environment on and around Lake Takapan constitute a Common Pool Resources, which depend very much on the quality of institutional management, that in turn determines the welfare of the community and population whose livelihood depend on it. To that end, this research conducted and analysis of the difference in quality of institutional management of Lake Takapan prior to and after 1980, and how that relate to the quality of environment and welfare of the community whose livelihood depends on it.

Thus, this research examined history, culture, formal and informal organization's aspects, activities, and dynamics of all actors who are involved directly and otherwise in the formation and management of Lake Takapan such as members of society, the government, and private sector. The research used qualitative methodology. Data were collected using in-depth interviews with key informants, supplemented by direct observation, and review of extant literature that included policy reports, practices, and previous empirical research.

The research came with key findings. First, prior to 1980, the institutional management of Lake Takapan was ideal. During that period, the management of Lake Takapan was based on Dayak values and beliefs which placed a lot of

emphasis of environmental conservation. Consequently, environmental conservation was upheld, which in turn ensured that the needs of the population were met. Secondly, after 1980, institutional management of Lake Takapan was no longer ideal, and was characterized by an interaction of three actors all of whom espoused behaviors that were not commensurate with environmental conservation. Dayak society has since then adopted consumptive behavior and materialism as an adverse impact of development and infiltration of new religious beliefs and culture. Equally important was the decision by the government and private sector to turn Lake Takapan into a vital source of illicit revenue and income. Consequently, Lake Takapan has experienced severe environmental degradation, which has adverse impact on welfare of the community.

To overcome the problem, the research makes a number of policy recommendations. The process must involve all the three key actors. Meanwhile, the government should put in place a policy that transforms Lake Takapan into an ecotourism area, which should be preceded by implementing other supporting policies and measures. Leveraging on the rich cultural values, norms and beliefs of the Dayak community should go a long way to stem the causes as well as mitigate and eventually eradicate behavior and practices that have led to environmental degradation and damage to Lake Takapan and concomitant impact on people's livelihood. However, the implementation of the above recommendation, will require investment of time, efforts and resources by all stakeholders, state, private, and community alike, which is why well thought design, planning, and execution is required.

***Keywords: Common Pool Resources, Institution, Policy, Environment, and Ecotourism***