Letter of Invitation

March 23, 2011

Erwan Purwanto
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Dear Erwan Purwanto

You are cordially invited to the International Conference organized by the Korean Association for Policy Studies (KAPS) which will be held on June 17-18th, 2011 at the Grand Hilton in Seoul. KAPS expects that more than 250 scholars from Korea and abroad will attend the conference to discuss cutting edge issues related to the conference theme, *Fairness in Public Policy: Efficiency, Equity, Beyond*.

We are pleased that your paper titled “Transparency in the Policy Making Process: Case Study on the Formulation of Bylaws in Six Districts in Indonesia” has been accepted for presentation. Please remember that complete manuscript should be submitted by June 1, 2011. You may also be requested to be a panel chair or a discussant in other sessions. Although we cannot provide airfare, hotel accommodation for 3 nights based on twin share and on-site meals during the conference are provided free of charge and there is no registration fee.

Information on hotel reservation, manuscript preparation, and conference program will be sent to you soon. Conference update will be posted at our website http://kaps.or.kr/en/src/main/main.php. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Dr. PARK Hyung Jun, the Chair of International Cooperation Committee, at hjpark72@skku.edu, or Ms. JANG Yuri at conference@kaps.or.kr.

Thank you for your participation and we look forward to meeting you in Seoul,

Best regards,

Dr. Kim Hunmin
President of the Korean Association for Policy Studies
Dean, Scranton College
Professor, Dept. of Public Administration
Ewha Womans University
Seoul, Korea
Transparency in the Policy making Process: Case Study on the Formulation of Bylaws in Six Districts in Indonesia

By

Erwan Agus Purwanto

Abstract

Governance is considered one of the most popular concepts, which has been used by many public administration scholars over the last decade, to explain the problems many developing country governments face in realizing their development goals and objectives. The absence of what these scholars refer to as good governance principles in guiding the development process or implementation is considered a critical factor that lies behind development failure.

Transparency, is one of the good governance principles. Adhering to transparency values means that all policy making processes right from agenda setting, policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation are accessible to stakeholders (government, private sector and civil society organisation). More importantly, citizens should be recognized as having the right of access obtain information on the policy making process they need.

This paper attempts to assess the extent to which transparency as one of the good governance principles, is implemented. The focus of the research is the process of formulating bylaws (local regulations) in six districts, interalia: Yogyakarta city government, Gunung Kidul district government, Mataram city government, Bima district government, Gorontalo city government, and Pohwatu city government.

Keywords: good governance, transparency, policy making process, local government

1. Introduction

Public policy is of strategic importance both in developed and developing countries. This is the more so considering the definition of policy as collective action: an effort conducted by various stakeholders to deal with a certain public problem which cannot be solved by adopting private policy.

Public policy is inseparable from collective action. Collective action is needed because not all individual problems can be solved through private policy. When it does so, it will lead to

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a norm. The absence of clear sanctions for violating stipulations on involving the general public in regulation formation, has meant the participation of the general public in formulating regulations continues minimal if not nonexistent.

Enhancing transparency and public participation in the formulation of local regulation is a must, which is why a two pronged approach is need to do so. First, from the supply side of the local governments and parliaments, transparency should be encouraged in the formulation of various new regulations. Second, from the demand side, there is need to increase people’s awareness about their rights to engage in the process of drafting regulations which should enhance their ability to exercise control over what parliamentary representatives do and various policies formulated by local governments.

References


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