

Optimizing Service Quality: The Role of Human Resources Development at Gunungsitoli City's Central Statistical Agency

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Abstract:

This research aims to clarify the impact of human resource development on service quality at the Central Statistics Agency of Gunungsitoli City. Utilizing qualitative methods, the study collects secondary data through interviews with a focus on human resource development. The analysis reveals that human resource development significantly influences the quality of services provided by the government in Gunungsitoli City. Specifically, the findings indicate that improved human resources lead to enhanced performance of government personnel, thereby positively affecting service quality. This study underscores the critical role of effective human resource development in elevating organizational performance and service delivery.

Keywords: Human Resources Development, Service Quality

1. Introduction

The Central Statistics Agency (BPS) is an Indonesian non-ministerial government institution responsible for providing essential statistical data to both the government and the public at national and regional levels. BPS's mission is to deliver accurate and timely statistical information to aid in policy-making and public understanding. In line with the central government's directives, all levels of government—including provincial, regional, and city authorities—are encouraged to innovate and enhance their service delivery (Junaidi et al., 2021; Kurniawati et al., 2023). The Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency, serving the local community, is expected to meet these high standards by providing both direct and online services aimed at improving public access to essential information (Purnama et al., 2023).

The development of human resources at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency plays a crucial role in achieving service excellence. According to Law No. 7 of 1960 concerning Statistics, human resource development involves systematic recruitment, training, and continuous education to enhance employees' skills and competencies (Amin et al., 2022; Setiawan & Sari, 2023). This process includes planning, directing, and implementing educational programs that aim to improve employees' technical, theoretical, and practical skills, thereby enhancing their

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performance (Yulianto et al., 2023). Effective human resource development is essential for equipping employees with the knowledge and abilities needed to deliver high-quality services (Rahayu et al., 2023; Santosa, 2022).

Human resources are pivotal to the performance of the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency, as they are directly involved in carrying out tasks and responsibilities that affect service quality. Organizational management significantly impacts employee performance, which in turn influences the quality of services provided (Sari et al., 2023; Susanto & Hidayat, 2023). Service quality, a critical component of organizational success, is determined by the ability of an organization to meet or exceed customer expectations (Kurniawan, 2023; Wibowo et al., 2022). High service quality leads to increased customer satisfaction, which is essential for maintaining public trust and ensuring effective service delivery (Haryanto et al., 2023).

Research on human resource development in the context of service quality highlights the importance of training and development programs in enhancing organizational performance. Previous studies have demonstrated that well-structured human resource development initiatives lead to improved service outcomes (Nugroho & Prasetyo, 2022; Putra et al., 2022). For example, research by Dewi et al. (2023) showed that effective employee training positively impacts service quality and customer satisfaction. Similarly, studies by Utami et al. (2023) and Indah et al. (2023) emphasize the role of ongoing professional development in enhancing service delivery in various sectors.

However, there is a research gap concerning the specific impact of human resource development on service quality within the context of BPS in Gunungsitoli City. While there is substantial evidence on the general relationship between human resource development and service quality, specific studies focusing on this agency's context are limited. This study seeks to address this gap by exploring how human resource development initiatives at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency affect service quality and overall performance (Purnama et al., 2023; Rahmawati, 2022).

The novelty of this research lies in its focus on a specific local government institution and its examination of the direct impact of human resource development on service quality. By providing empirical evidence from the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency, this study contributes to the understanding of how targeted human resource development strategies can enhance service delivery in a localized context (Nugroho & Prasetyo, 2022; Santosa, 2022).

The urgency of this study is underscored by the need for effective service delivery in public sector organizations, especially in areas with growing demands for accurate and timely statistical data. Understanding the relationship between human resource development and service quality is crucial for improving public sector performance and ensuring that agencies meet the needs of their constituents effectively (Setiawan & Sari, 2023; Susanto & Hidayat, 2023).

The objective of this research is to clarify the impact of human resource development on service quality at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency. By analyzing the effects of various human resource development practices, this study aims to provide actionable insights that can enhance service quality and improve the performance of the agency (Amin et al., 2022; Yulianto et al., 2023).

2. Theoretical Background

Human Resource Development (HRD)

Human Resource Development (HRD) refers to a systematic process designed to enhance employees' skills, knowledge, and capabilities through training, education, and experience (Noe et al., 2022). HRD encompasses various aspects such as recruitment, training, career development, and performance evaluation, all aimed at improving employee effectiveness and productivity within an organization (Dessler, 2023). Effective HRD contributes significantly to improved employee performance and service quality (Harrison, 2023).

Previous research indicates that continuous training and development can enhance employees' skills and job satisfaction, which in turn positively impacts the quality of service delivered (Birdi et al., 2023). For instance, Yulianto et al. (2023) found that well-structured training programs improve employees' technical skills and practical knowledge, leading to better workplace performance.

Service Quality

Service quality is a measure of how well the services provided by an organization meet or exceed customer expectations (Zeithaml et al., 2022). It can be assessed through various dimensions, including reliability, responsiveness, assurance, empathy, and tangible elements (Parasuraman et al., 2023). Kurniawati et al. (2023) demonstrated that enhancing service quality directly affects customer satisfaction and loyalty.

As an institution providing statistical data, the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) must ensure high-quality service to meet the informational needs of both the public and government. Purnama et al. (2023) highlighted that improving service quality at BPS could boost user satisfaction and service efficiency.

Relationship Between Human Resource Development and Service Quality

Human Resource Development plays a crucial role in enhancing service quality across various organizations. Research by Rahayu et al. (2023) showed that effective training programs and career development contribute to improved employee competencies, which positively impacts service quality. Similarly, Dewi et al. (2023) found that investing in employee skill development enhances customer satisfaction and service outcomes.

Iskandar Wiyokusumo (2023) emphasized that focusing HRD efforts on improving both technical and moral skills can lead to more competent and service-oriented employees. This supports the argument that well-implemented training and development programs result in employees who are more effective at delivering highquality services.

3. Methodology

This study employs a descriptive qualitative method, focusing on capturing indepth, descriptive data through verbal and behavioral observations, as outlined by Bogdan and Taylor and referenced by Lexy J. Moleong. The qualitative approach aims to thoroughly understand the development of human resources and service quality at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency by exploring the experiences, perceptions, and behaviors of the subjects involved. This method allows for a detailed and nuanced analysis of social phenomena, focusing on how employees interact with and contribute to service quality through their experiences and developmental processes.

Data collection involves multiple techniques: observation, interviews, and documentation. Observations are conducted to directly witness and record relevant phenomena and processes at the agency. Structured and unstructured interviews with employees provide firsthand insights into their experiences and the impact of human resource development on service quality. Documentation supplements these methods by offering historical data and records that support the observed and reported findings. Data analysis follows Miles and Huberman's interactive approach, encompassing data collection, reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the research topic.

4. Empirical Findings/Result

Following are the results and discussion of the interviews and observations that have been carried out, a discussion arises regarding the analysis of HR development on the quality of services at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency, namely that the quality of HR has a positive and significant effect on performance in a company. If the human resources are good, the performance of government services will be better. Apart from that, the quality of human resources has a big influence on public trust. The quality of human resources is considered very important because it has a significant impact on improving employee performance. The aim is to regulate the management of the quality of human resources so that they can achieve maximum performance, have high loyalty, and carry out their duties well. According to Krismiyati, (2017) efforts to develop human resources in Gunungsitli City include:

1. Increase Employee Motivation and Engagement.

To encourage and encourage someone to try what they want to do and succeed in achieving it. The motivation you receive may come from your boss or from yourself. There is something that inspires someone to do something.

2. Personality.

Habits, attitudes and character are part of a person's personality which develop through interactions between people. Personality is closely related to values, norms and behavior. Character is related to the ability to maintain integrity, which includes attitudes, actions, ethics and morals.

3. Skills

Is the ability or skill required to complete a task. Training improves employee skills. Good skills can be obtained from oneself or through other people.

4. Education

If we look back at the education and training process, we can see that the end result of the process is the desired change in behavior. In other words, education essentially aims to change employee behavior.

According to Prasadja Ricardianto, (2018) increasing human resources in the city of Gunungsitoli can increase work productivity, create good relationships between superiors and subordinates, the decision-making process will be fast and precise and can increase the morale of all members in the organization. By increasing human resources at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency, we can improve services and make things easier for the community and increase public trust in the Gunungsitoli city government because service quality has a positive impact on the performance of surrounding organizations, so that if the service quality is good, the organization's performance will also be better. so that the targets and objectives of work programs can be achieved by the government in the city of Gunungsitoli well.

5. Discussion

The analysis of human resource (HR) development at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency reveals a strong positive correlation between the quality of HR and service performance. This finding aligns with the broader understanding that effective HR practices are crucial for enhancing organizational performance. The evidence from the interviews and observations indicates that higher quality HR contributes significantly to improved performance in government services. This supports the theory that competent and well-developed human resources are integral to achieving optimal organizational outcomes (Krismiyati, 2017).

According to Krismiyati (2017), key elements of HR development include increasing employee motivation and engagement, fostering positive personality traits, enhancing skills through training, and focusing on education. Motivation is particularly important as it drives employees to achieve their goals and perform better in their roles. Personality, encompassing habits, attitudes, and character, influences how employees interact and maintain integrity in their professional environment. Skills development through targeted training enables employees to perform tasks more effectively, while education ensures that behavioral changes necessary for improved performance are achieved. Prasadja Ricardianto (2018) further emphasizes that enhancing HR capabilities leads to improved work productivity, better interpersonal relationships, and more efficient decision-making. The study's findings are consistent with Ricardianto's assertion that investing in HR development not only boosts service quality but also fosters trust and satisfaction among the public. By developing HR effectively, the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency can enhance its service delivery, thereby improving public perception and trust in the local government.

The results highlight that effective HR management is essential for achieving high service quality and performance. This discussion aligns with the existing literature on HR development, which underscores the importance of comprehensive training, motivational strategies, and skill enhancement in improving organizational outcomes. Future research could explore the specific mechanisms through which HR development impacts service quality and identify best practices for implementing these strategies in different organizational contexts.

6. Conclusions

The study concludes that human resource development significantly impacts service quality at the Gunungsitoli City Central Statistics Agency. Enhanced HR practices lead to improved government performance, demonstrating that when the quality of human resources is high, the effectiveness and efficiency of public services also improve. Effective management of human resources is crucial for achieving optimal performance, fostering high levels of employee loyalty, and ensuring the successful execution of duties. Consequently, strong HR development not only boosts performance but also positively influences public trust in the local government.

Future research should focus on several areas to build on these findings. First, it would be valuable to explore specific HR development practices that have the most significant impact on service quality. Studies could investigate how different training programs, motivational strategies, and recruitment processes contribute to improved performance in various government settings. Additionally, examining the relationship between HR development and other variables, such as employee satisfaction and organizational culture, could provide deeper insights into the mechanisms driving service quality. Comparative studies across different cities or regions could also shed light on how contextual factors influence the effectiveness of HR development. Finally, longitudinal research could assess the long-term effects of HR development initiatives on service quality and public trust, providing a more comprehensive understanding of the sustained impact of these practices.

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