

ABSTRAK

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THE OPPORTUNITIES OF REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR INDONESIA'S SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE (SEZ) IN NORTH SULAWESI

KATA KUNCI : SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, REGIONAL COOPERATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CONNECTIVITY, INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES.

Kerjasama kawasan di Asia Tenggara, khususnya kerjasama antar negara-negara di sekitar Ekoregion Laut Sulu-Sulawesi yang dianggap sebagai Kawasan Pertumbuhan ASEAN Timur, memberikan peluang bagi Kawasan Ekonomi Khusus Indonesia di Sulawesi Utara. Tesis ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui bagaimana para aktor negara, khususnya Indonesia dan Filipina sebagai negara kunci di kawasan kepulauan Asia Tenggara mengembangkan peluang Kawasan Ekonomi Khusus (KEK) Indonesia di Sulawesi Utara. Dengan metode kualitatif, pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan wawancara mendalam, studi pustaka, dan penelusuran online. Neo-liberalisme dipilih sebagai kerangka teori karena penelitian ini menganggap peran aktor negara dan non-negara sama pentingnya dalam menciptakan interdependensi transnasional dan meningkatkan jaringan global. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa baik pemerintah Indonesia maupun Filipina, pemerintah provinsi dan masyarakat lokal Sulawesi Utara menciptakan peluang bagi Kawasan Ekonomi Khusus di Likupang, Sulawesi Utara. Proyek pembangunan tersebut memanfaatkan pemberdayaan masyarakat lokal, kerjasama regional, dan konektivitas infrastruktur di bagian timur Asia Tenggara untuk mencapai tujuan global yang berkelanjutan, khususnya di kawasan Indo-Pasifik.

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Regional cooperation in Southeast Asia, particularly the cooperation between the countries around Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion, which is considered as East ASEAN Growth Area, provides opportunities for Indonesia's Special Economic Zone in North Sulawesi. This thesis aims to understand how state actors, especially Indonesia and the Philippines as the key states in the insular Southeast Asia develop opportunities for Indonesia's Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in North Sulawesi. Using qualitative method, the data was collected by using in-depth interviews, literature studies, and online searches. Neo-liberalism was chosen as theoretical framework since this research considers the role of state and non-state actors as equally important in creating transnational interdependence and increasing the global network. This research finds that both governments of Indonesia and the Philippines, the provincial government and the local community of North Sulawesi create opportunities for the Special Economic Zone in Likupang, North Sulawesi. The development project utilizes local community empowerment, regional cooperation, and infrastructure connectivity in the eastern part of Southeast Asia to achieve the global sustainable goals, particularly in Indo-Pacific region.