

# TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF VILLAGE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Hardianti <sup>1</sup>, Filasti Rahma <sup>\*2</sup>, Wilda Fatmala<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Politeknik Baubau, Baubau, Indonesia

## ARTICLE INFORMATION

Received: 4 May 2025  
Revised : 9 July 2025  
Accepted: 27 August 2025  
DOI:

## KEYWORDS

Transparency and Accountability and  
Infrastructure Development

## CORRESPONDING AUTHOR

Nama : Filasti Rahma  
Address : Betoambari, Baubau  
E-mail : rahmafilasti@gmail.com

## ABSTRACT

*Transparent and accountable village financial management is a prerequisite for effective public governance and a pillar of sustainable development. However, variations in community education levels, local cultural characteristics, and oversight effectiveness often affect its implementation. This study analyzes the effect of transparency and accountability on village financial management in Lambusango Timur Village, Kapontori District, Buton Regency. An explanatory quantitative approach was employed with 82 respondents selected through purposive sampling. Data were collected via structured questionnaires and analyzed using SPSS 2.6, including validity and reliability tests, classical assumption tests, and hypothesis testing with t-tests and F-tests. Transparency has a positive and significant partial effect on village financial management, while accountability is not significant in the partial test. Nevertheless, simultaneously transparency and accountability show a significant effect. Conclusion: The findings underscore the central role of information openness in improving management practices, while the impact of accountability still requires stronger institutional support. The study recommends improving reporting systems, enhancing community fiscal literacy, and promoting participatory oversight to consolidate transparency and optimize accountability.*

## INTRODUCTION

Infrastructure development plays a strategic role in spurring economic growth and improving the quality of life for the community. Adequate infrastructure facilitates the distribution of goods and services by increasing logistical efficiency, reducing transportation costs, and encouraging the growth of supporting sectors such as industry, trade, and tourism (Rahma, 2025).

Transparency and accountability in public financial management are increasingly pressing issues in various countries, including Indonesia. In the context of village governance, sound financial management is key to achieving sustainable development goals. Since the enactment of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, the central government has allocated substantial Village Funds to improve community welfare and develop infrastructure at the village level.

Transparency is defined as the ability of an entity to provide clear, accurate, and timely information to the public so that they can understand and evaluate the actions and decisions taken by that entity (Sari and Prabowo, 2020). Accountability is a principle that requires individuals or organizations to be accountable to stakeholders for their actions, decisions, and use of the resources they manage. Accountability includes the obligation to provide clear and transparent reports on performance and results achieved, as well as explaining the reasons behind decisions taken (Kurniawan, 2021).

According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (Kemendagri), approximately 30% of villages in Indonesia do not meet transparency standards in their financial reports. This creates a gap between public expectations for transparent and accountable financial management and the reality. Public dissatisfaction with the management of village funds can lead to low public participation in the oversight process and increase the potential for abuse of authority by certain parties.

The importance of this research lies in the need to better understand the factors influencing transparency and accountability in village financial management. Although numerous previous studies have addressed this topic, the results still highlight uncertainties and research gaps that need to be

addressed. This study aims to explore the relationship between transparency and accountability, as well as the factors influencing both variables at the village level. Therefore, this research is expected to contribute to the development of public accounting knowledge and provide evidence-based recommendations for improving village financial management.

Transparency in village financial management can be defined as the openness of information regarding village financial management, including reports on fund use, which must be accessible and understandable to the public. Meanwhile, accountability refers to the village government's responsibility to account for the use of funds to the community. Both are crucial elements in fostering public trust and participation in village financial management. Without transparency and accountability, the community will struggle to monitor and evaluate village government performance, which can ultimately lead to abuse of authority and corruption.

The purpose of this study is to provide a clear picture of the state of transparency and accountability in village financial management in Indonesia. Using a quantitative approach, this study will collect valid and reliable data, which can then be statistically analyzed to measure the relationships between the variables studied. The results are expected to provide new insights and relevant solutions to improve transparency and accountability in village financial management and encourage community participation in more effective oversight processes. Furthermore, this study is expected to serve as a reference for further research and contribute to the development of better public policies in the field of village financial management.

Based on the above description, this research is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the importance of transparency and accountability in village financial management and encourage continuous improvement in financial management practices at the village level. This research not only provides academic contributions but also provides practical benefits for communities *and village governments in creating better and more sustainable financial management.*

## **METHOD**

This study uses an explanatory quantitative approach to examine the causal relationship between transparency and accountability in village financial management. According to Creswell and Creswell (2018), a quantitative approach is appropriate when researchers want to test a theory by analyzing the relationship between variables through a statistical model. In the context of this study, a quantitative approach was chosen because:

The nature of the research problem aims to examine effects that can be measured numerically. The need for precision requires precise measurement of key variables. Generalizability of results requires findings that can be generalized to a broader population. Measurement standards allow for the use of standardized instruments to ensure data reliability.

The population of this study was the entire population of Lambusango Timur Village, totaling 464 people. A sample size of 464 people in Lambusango Timur Village can provide insight into the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the local community. This data is important for further analysis of village development needs and potential.

The study was conducted in Lambusango Timur Village, Kapontori District, Buton Regency, from March to August 2025.

## **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

### **Transparency in Village Fund Management in Infrastructure Development Validity Test**

Validity testing is intended to ensure that the items in the questionnaire truly reflect the constructs to be measured. The testing procedure was conducted using Pearson's bivariate correlation

with the aid of SPSS software. The basis for decision-making is a comparison between  $r_{\text{calculated}}$  and  $r_{\text{table}}$ . An item is declared valid if  $r_{\text{calculated}} > r_{\text{table}}$ ; conversely, if  $r_{\text{calculated}} < r_{\text{table}}$ , the item is categorized as invalid (Slamet and Aglis, 2020).

**Table 4.2 Results of Transparency Validity Test (X1)**

|       |                     | Correlations |        |        |        |        |        |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|       |                     | X1_1         | X1_2   | X1_3   | X1_4   | X1_5   | TOTAL  |
| X1_1  | Pearson Correlation | 1            | ,477** | ,659** | ,498** | ,606** | ,803** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     |              | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X1_2  | Pearson Correlation | ,477**       | 1      | ,459** | ,599** | ,523** | ,762** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         |        | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X1_3  | Pearson Correlation | ,659**       | ,459** | 1      | ,461** | ,597** | ,783** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   |        | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X1_4  | Pearson Correlation | ,498**       | ,599** | ,461** | 1      | ,595** | ,805** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   |        | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X1_5  | Pearson Correlation | ,606**       | ,523** | ,597** | ,595** | 1      | ,838** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| TOTAL | Pearson Correlation | ,803**       | ,762** | ,783** | ,805** | ,838** | 1      |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the results of the validation test on the transparency variable (X1), the  $r$  table of 82 respondents is 0.1807. So it can be concluded that the validation test is valid.

**Table 4.3 Results of Accountability Validity Test (X2)**

|       |                     | Correlations |        |        |        |        |        |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|       |                     | X2_1         | X2_2   | X2_3   | X2_4   | X2_5   | TOTAL  |
| X2_1  | Pearson Correlation | 1            | ,527** | ,670** | ,554** | ,165   | ,746** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     |              | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,137   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X2_2  | Pearson Correlation | ,527**       | 1      | ,727** | ,628** | ,329** | ,823** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         |        | ,000   | ,000   | ,003   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X2_3  | Pearson Correlation | ,670**       | ,727** | 1      | ,693** | ,427** | ,891** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   |        | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X2_4  | Pearson Correlation | ,554**       | ,628** | ,693** | 1      | ,298** | ,786** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   |        | ,006   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| X2_5  | Pearson Correlation | ,165         | ,329** | ,427** | ,298** | 1      | ,603** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,137         | ,003   | ,000   | ,006   |        | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| TOTAL | Pearson Correlation | ,746**       | ,823** | ,891** | ,786** | ,603** | 1      |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the results of the validation test on the accountability variable (X2), the  $r$  table of 82 respondents was 0.1807. So it can be concluded that the validation test is declared valid.

**Table 4.4 Results of the Validity Test of Village Financial Management (Y)**

|       |                     | Correlations |        |        |        |        |        |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|       |                     | Y_1          | Y_2    | Y_3    | Y_4    | Y_5    | TOTAL  |
| Y_1   | Pearson Correlation | 1            | ,553** | ,553** | ,561** | ,629** | ,814** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     |              | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| Y_2   | Pearson Correlation | ,553**       | 1      | ,363** | ,621** | ,477** | ,717** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         |        | ,001   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| Y_3   | Pearson Correlation | ,553**       | ,363** | 1      | ,482** | ,701** | ,761** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,001   |        | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| Y_4   | Pearson Correlation | ,561**       | ,621** | ,482** | 1      | ,663** | ,825** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   |        | ,000   | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| Y_5   | Pearson Correlation | ,629**       | ,477** | ,701** | ,663** | 1      | ,868** |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        | ,000   |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| Y_6   | Pearson Correlation | ,522**       | ,440** | ,505** | ,624** | ,608** | 1      |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |
| TOTAL | Pearson Correlation | ,814**       | ,717** | ,761** | ,825** | ,868** | 1      |
|       | Sig. (2-tailed)     | ,000         | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   | ,000   |        |
|       | N                   | 82           | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     | 82     |

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the results of the validation test on the village financial management variable (Y), r table 82 respondents is 0.1807. So it can be concluded that the validation test is declared valid.

### Reliability Test

Reliability testing is intended to assess the level of reliability of a questionnaire instrument as an indicator of a variable or construct, so that the consistency of measurement results can be maintained when measurements are repeated at different times. In this study, reliability was calculated using the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient ( $\alpha$ ). The determination of reliability is based on a threshold of 0.60 (Sugiyono in Dewi and Sudaryanto, 2020).

**Table 4.5 Results of Transparency Reliability Test (X1)**

| Item-Total Statistics |                            |                                |                                  |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                       | Scale Mean if Item Deleted | Scale Variance if Item Deleted | Corrected Item-Total Correlation | Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted |
| X1_1                  | 14,1341                    | 11,797                         | ,688                             | ,823                             |
| X1_2                  | 14,4146                    | 12,172                         | ,631                             | ,837                             |
| X1_3                  | 14,2561                    | 12,094                         | ,665                             | ,829                             |
| X1_4                  | 14,7439                    | 10,934                         | ,662                             | ,831                             |
| X1_5                  | 14,3049                    | 10,906                         | ,724                             | ,813                             |

Based on the reliability test results, the Cronbach's Alpha value for the transparency variable (X1) was recorded as greater than 0.60. This finding indicates that the measurement instrument for this variable has adequate reliability and demonstrates consistency of results between items when used in measurement.

**Table 4.6 Results of Accountability Reliability Test (X2)**

| Item-Total Statistics |                            |                                |                                  |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                       | Scale Mean if Item Deleted | Scale Variance if Item Deleted | Corrected Item-Total Correlation | Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted |
| X2_1                  | 14,1707                    | 11,082                         | ,600                             | ,792                             |
| X2_2                  | 14,1585                    | 10,678                         | ,719                             | ,762                             |
| X2_3                  | 14,2805                    | 9,143                          | ,801                             | ,727                             |
| X2_4                  | 14,7317                    | 10,742                         | ,658                             | ,776                             |
| X2_5                  | 14,7561                    | 11,742                         | ,366                             | ,865                             |

Based on the reliability test results above, it can be concluded that the Cronbach's Alpha value for the accountability variable (X2) is greater than 0.60, indicating that the instrument is reliable and consistent.

**Table 4.7 Results of the Reliability Test of Village Financial Management (Y)**

| Item-Total Statistics |                            |                                |                                  |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                       | Scale Mean if Item Deleted | Scale Variance if Item Deleted | Corrected Item-Total Correlation | Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted |
| Y_1                   | 17,4268                    | 19,853                         | ,731                             | ,858                             |
| Y_2                   | 17,5610                    | 20,472                         | ,592                             | ,879                             |
| Y_3                   | 18,0244                    | 19,456                         | ,640                             | ,872                             |
| Y_4                   | 17,5366                    | 19,264                         | ,740                             | ,855                             |
| Y_5                   | 17,5000                    | 18,623                         | ,781                             | ,848                             |
| Y_6                   | 17,3780                    | 18,905                         | ,694                             | ,863                             |

Based on the reliability test results above, it can be concluded that the Cronbach's alpha value for the village financial management variable (Y) is greater than 0.60, indicating that the instrument is reliable and consistent.

## Normality Test

The Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test provides information on how well data follows a normal distribution. It is important to ensure that the assumptions of normality are met before conducting further analysis (Kuncoro, 2020). Data are considered normal if the p-value is  $> 0.05$ ; conversely, data are considered abnormal if the p-value is  $< \text{or} = 0.05$ .

**Table 4.8 Normality Test Results**

| One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test    |                |                         |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
|                                       |                | Unstandardized Residual |
| N                                     |                | 82                      |
| Normal Parameters <sup>a,b</sup>      | Mean           | ,0000000                |
|                                       | Std. Deviation | 2,26565752              |
| Most Extreme Differences              | Absolute       | ,090                    |
|                                       | Positive       | ,066                    |
|                                       | Negative       | -,090                   |
| Test Statistic                        |                | ,090                    |
| Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)                |                | ,100 <sup>c</sup>       |
| a. Test distribution is Normal        |                |                         |
| b. Calculated from data.              |                |                         |
| c. Lilliefors Significance Correction |                |                         |

The Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test above yields an asymp. Sig. value of  $0.100 > 0.05$ . Therefore, the research data can be considered normally distributed.

## Heteroscedasticity Test

Heteroscedasticity is a test that can lead to inefficient regression coefficient estimates and affect the validity of hypothesis testing. Therefore, it is important to detect and address this problem in regression analysis (Gujarati and Porter, 2019). Data is said to be heteroscedastic using the Glesjser test if the coefficient of the independent variable is significant with a p-value  $< 0.05$ , then it can be concluded that heteroscedasticity exists.

**Table 4.9 Heteroscedasticity Test Results**

| efficients <sup>a</sup>     |                             |      |                           |        |      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| Model                       | Unstandardized Coefficients |      | Standardized Coefficients | T      | Sig. |
|                             | . Error                     |      | a                         |        |      |
| (Constant)                  | 1,072                       | ,731 |                           | 1,467  | ,146 |
| Transparasi_X1              | -,160                       | ,073 | -,463                     | -2,199 | ,31  |
| Akuntabilita_X2             | ,196                        | ,076 | ,543                      | 2,582  | ,12  |
| Dependent Variable: ABS_RES |                             |      |                           |        |      |

Based on the results of the heteroscedasticity test above, it can be concluded that the significance value for the transparency variable (X1) is 0.31 and accountability (X2) is 0.12. Therefore, it can be concluded that heteroscedasticity occurs in the transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) variables.

## Multiple Linear Regression Test

The multiple linear regression test involves testing classical assumptions (normality, multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity, autocorrelation) to ensure the regression coefficients are unbiased. Then, an F-test is performed to determine the simultaneous (joint) effect of the independent variables on the dependent variable, a t-test to determine the individual effect of each independent variable, and the Coefficient of Determination ( $R^2$ ) to measure the magnitude of the influence of the independent variables on the dependent variable as a whole (Imam Ghozali, 2018).

**Table 4.10 Multiple Linear Regression Test Results**

ANOVA<sup>a</sup>

| Model |            | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F       | Sig.              |
|-------|------------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1     | Regression | 1798,613       | 2  | 899,306     | 170,868 | ,000 <sup>b</sup> |
|       | Residual   | 415,790        | 79 | 5,263       |         |                   |
|       | Total      | 2214,402       | 81 |             |         |                   |

Model Summary

| Model | R                 | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | ,901 <sup>a</sup> | ,812     | ,807              | 2,29416                    |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Akuntabilitas\_X2, Transparansi\_X1

Based on the results of the multiple linear regression test above, it can be concluded that the R-square value is  $0.812 > 0.05$ , indicating a linear relationship between accountability and village financial management.

### Multicollinearity Test

Multicollinearity can cause difficulties in determining the influence of each independent variable on the dependent variable. Therefore, it is important to check the VIF in regression analysis (Hair et al., 2019). Data is considered multicollinear if it can be measured using the VIF. If the VIF value of an independent variable is greater than 10, then the multicollinearity is significant. Conversely, if the VIF is less than 10, the multicollinearity is considered insignificant.

**Table 4.11 Multicollinearity Test**

| Coefficients <sup>a</sup> |                  |                         |       |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
|                           |                  | Collinearity Statistics |       |
| Model                     |                  | Tolerance               | VIF   |
| 1                         | Transparansi_X1  | ,264                    | 3,793 |
|                           | Akuntabilitas_X2 | ,264                    | 3,793 |

a. Dependent Variable: pengelolaankeuangandes\_a\_Y

Based on the results of the multicollinearity test above, it can be concluded that the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) values for the transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) variables are below 10, and the tolerance values for transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) are greater than 10. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is no multicollinearity problem between the transparency and accountability variables in village financial management.

### Simultaneous Test ( f )

The F-test assesses whether all independent variables jointly influence the dependent variable at a significance level of  $\alpha = 0.05$ . The decision is made by comparing the calculated F and the F-table (or by looking at the p-value): if the calculated  $F > F_{table}$  ( $p < 0.05$ ), then  $H_0$  is rejected and the regression model is declared significant/appropriate overall (Ghozali, 2016).

**Table 4.12 Simultaneous Test (F)**

| ANOVA <sup>a</sup> |            |                |    |             |         |                   |
|--------------------|------------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| Model              |            | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F       | Sig.              |
| 1                  | Regression | 1798,613       | 2  | 899,306     | 170,868 | ,000 <sup>b</sup> |
|                    | Residual   | 415,790        | 79 | 5,263       |         |                   |
|                    | Total      | 2214,402       | 81 |             |         |                   |

a. Dependent Variable: pengelolaankeuangandeses\_Y  
b. Predictors: (Constant), Akuntabilitas\_X2, Transparansi\_X1

Based on the results of the F-test analysis above, it can be concluded that the calculated  $F > F_{table}$ , where the calculated  $F = 170.868$  and the  $F_{table} = 3.96$ . Therefore, it can be concluded that simultaneously, transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) in village financial management (Y) are significantly related.

### Partial Test (t)

The t-test is used to assess the significance of the influence of each independent variable on the dependent variable at a significance level of  $\alpha = 0.005$ . Inferentially, the probability of obtaining a test statistic that falls in the rejection region when  $H_0$  is true is  $p = 0.005$ . The decision is taken by comparing the calculated t with the  $t_{table}$  or looking at the p-value: if the calculated  $t > t_{table}$  (equivalently:  $p < 0.005$ ), then  $H_0$  is rejected, so that variable X has an effect on Y (Ghozali, 2016).

**Table 4.15 Partial Test (T)**

| Coefficients <sup>a</sup> |                  |                             |            |                           |       |      |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------|------|
|                           |                  | Unstandardized Coefficients |            | Standardized Coefficients | t     | Sig. |
| Model                     |                  | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      |       |      |
| 1                         | (Constant)       | -,422                       | 1,196      |                           | -,353 | ,725 |
|                           | Transparansi_X1  | ,608                        | ,119       | ,486                      | 5,122 | ,000 |
|                           | Akuntabilitas_X2 | ,587                        | ,124       | ,449                      | 4,725 | ,000 |

a. Dependent Variable: pengelolaankeuangandeses\_Y

Based on the t-test analysis results for the transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) variables above, it can be concluded that transparency (X1) and accountability (X2) are greater than 0.05, indicating a significant partial relationship.

Based on the data analysis above, it can be concluded that transparency has a positive and significant influence on village financial management in East Lambusango Village. This means that the higher the level of information disclosure provided by the village government, the better the village's financial management. Therefore, the first hypothesis (H1), which states that transparency has a positive and significant influence on village financial management, is accepted. This finding aligns with public governance theory, which emphasizes the importance of transparency as a means to increase accountability and public participation in village resource management (Sedarmayanti, 2020). Furthermore, these results align with research by Prabowo (2019) and Rahman (2020) that found transparency has a positive influence on village financial management.

Accountability was also shown to have a positive and significant effect on village financial management, thus supporting the second hypothesis (H2). A village government that is able to account for the use of funds clearly and timely will increase public trust and improve the effectiveness of financial management. This finding supports agency theory, which emphasizes the responsibility of the agent (village government) to the principal (community) in financial management (Jensen & Meckling, 1976). These results also align with research by Sari (2021) and Wahyuni (2018), which showed that accountability contributes significantly to improving the quality of village financial management.

Simultaneous testing showed that transparency and accountability together significantly influence village financial management, thus supporting the third hypothesis (H3). This indicates that these two variables complement each other and are key factors in creating effective, efficient, and accountable village financial management.

Although accountability has a significant effect, the relationship is not entirely linear, indicating the presence of other factors that may moderate or mediate the effect of accountability on village financial management. This opens up opportunities for further research to include additional variables such as community participation, organizational culture, or internal control systems to enrich understanding of the dynamics of village financial management.

In general, the application of these principles enables village governments to strengthen public trust, expand citizen participation, and minimize the risk of misuse of village funds. These findings align with the public governance framework that emphasizes transparency and accountability, as well as agency theory, which highlights the importance of oversight mechanisms to mitigate conflicts of interest between village officials and the community.

## **CLOSING**

Based on the analysis and discussion, it can be concluded that transparency has a positive and significant effect on village financial management. The higher the level of transparency, the better the village financial management. Accountability has a positive and significant effect on village financial management. An accountable village government can improve the quality of financial management. The simultaneous influence of transparency and accountability in village financial management significantly influences village financial management, indicating that these two variables are important factors in effective and accountable village financial management.

Based on the researcher's field experience, this study has several limitations that merit attention. These limitations should be addressed and learned from for further research to allow for more targeted improvements. Recognizing that this study still has room for improvement, the researcher recommends that future research address these limitations to improve the quality of the findings and the clarity of inferences. Some limitations of this study include: The number of respondents, which was only 82, is obviously too small or unrepresentative of the population as a whole, thus limiting the findings. The research focus is limited to one village, namely East Lambusango Village, Kapontori District, which is only one of many villages in the Kapontori District. In the data collection process, the informants given to respondents through questionnaires sometimes do not show the respondents' true opinions. This is because there are differences in thoughts, assumptions and understanding of each respondent.

## **THANK YOU NOTE**

The author would like to express his sincere gratitude for the facilities and assistance provided during our research. Your assistance and focus have been invaluable and have streamlined the process. Furthermore, the author would like to thank his supervisors for their invaluable advice and guidance. Their dedicated support has significantly contributed to the smooth running of this research.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Arifin, Z. (2017). *Statistik untuk Penelitian*. Jakarta: Rajawali Press.
- Atmaja, A., & dkk. (2017). Pengaruh Kompetensi terhadap Pencegahan Kecurangan dalam Keuangan Desa. *Jurnal Akuntansi dan Keuangan*, 9(2), 123-135.
- BPS (Badan Pusat Statistik). (2020). *Statistik Desa 2020*. Jakarta: BPS.
- Creswell, J. W. (2020). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. 5th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. 5th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. SAGE Publications.

- Flick, U. (2018). *An Introduction to Qualitative Research*. 5th ed. London: SAGE Publications.
- Ghozali, I. (2016). *Model Persamaan Struktural: Konsep dan Aplikasi dengan Program AMOS 24*. Semarang: Badan Penerbit Universitas Diponegoro.
- Ghozali, I. (2018). *Aplikasi Analisis Multivariate dengan Program IBM SPSS 25*. Semarang: Badan Penerbit Universitas Diponegoro.
- Gujarati, D. N., & Porter, D. C. (2019). *Basic Econometrics*. 5th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education.
- Hadi, S. (2018). Analisis Jalur dalam Penelitian Sosial. *Jurnal Metodologi Penelitian*, 5(2), 67-80.
- Halim, A. (2020). *Akuntabilitas Pengelolaan Keuangan Publik*. Jakarta: Salemba Empat.
- Hyndman, N., & McKillop, D. (2019). Accountability in the Public Sector: A Review of the Literature. *Financial Accountability & Management*.
- Khan, M. M., & Hossain, M. (2020). The Impact of Transparency and Accountability on Financial Performance: Evidence from Local Government. *International Journal of Public Administration*.
- Kurniawan, A. (2021). Transparansi dan Akuntabilitas dalam Pengelolaan Keuangan Desa. *Jurnal Akuntansi dan Manajemen*, 15(3), 201-215.
- Mardiasmo, D. (2019). *Akuntansi Sektor Publik*. Yogyakarta: Andi Offset.
- Peraturan Menteri Dalam Negeri No. 20 Tahun 2018. *Tentang Laporan Keuangan Desa*. Jakarta: Kementerian Dalam Negeri.
- Prasetyo, E. (2022). Perencanaan Anggaran dan Pengelolaan Keuangan Desa. *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Bisnis*, 10(2), 78-90.
- Prasetyo, R. (2023). Indikator Transparansi dan Akuntabilitas dalam Pengelolaan Keuangan. *Jurnal Manajemen Publik*, 14(1), 34-50.
- Rahman, A. (2020). The Role of Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 43(5), 456-470.
- Sari, D., & Prabowo, H. (2020). Transparansi dalam Pengelolaan Keuangan Desa. *Jurnal Akuntansi dan Keuangan*, 11(2), 112-125.
- Sari, R. F., & Prabowo, H. (2022). The Role of Transparency and Accountability in Improving Village Financial Management. *Journal of Rural Studies*.
- Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2016). *Research Methods for Business: A Skill-Building Approach*. 7th ed. Chichester: Wiley.
- Sugiyono. (2019). *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D*. Bandung: Alfabeta.
- Wahyudi, S. (2021). Pengelolaan Keuangan Desa yang Transparan dan Akuntabel. *Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan*, 8(3), 201-215.
- Widyastuti, R. (2020). Pengaruh Transparansi dan Akuntabilitas terhadap Kinerja Pengelolaan Keuangan Desa. *Jurnal Akuntansi dan Keuangan*, 11(1), 55-70.