

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the community's perception regarding the plan to open a hiking trail on Mount Argopuro through Badean Village, Bangsalsari District, Jember Regency. The background of this research is based on the natural and socio-economic potential of the area, as well as the high public interest in the development of community-based nature tourism. The research method used is quantitative descriptive with a survey approach using a Likert scale questionnaire. The population of Badean Village consists of 9,211 people, with the sample size determined by Slovin's formula (with a 10% error margin), resulting in 99 respondents; however, the study involved 100 respondents to improve data accuracy. Descriptive analysis shows that the community's perception of opening the hiking trail falls into the very positive category, with strong support from various age groups, especially respondents aged 17–40 years who have hiking experience. Field observations through collected files revealed technical challenges such as extreme geographical conditions, landslide-prone areas, and limited supporting infrastructure that require special attention. These findings encourage that the trail opening be carried out gradually with a sustainable development approach involving local government, the community, and nature lover organizations.

Keywords: *Community perception, Mount Argopuro, hiking trail, community-based tourism*