



## Community-Based Maritime Defense: Analysis of Naval Base Integration with Coastal Communities in Indonesia's Strategic Maritime Zones

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### ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze naval base integration with coastal communities in Indonesia's strategic maritime zones to enhance maritime defense capabilities. Located at Naval Base Lanal Banten, the study examines the implementation of the Kampung Bahari Nusantara (KBN) program at three locations: Pulau Cangkir Kronjo, Pulo Panjang, and Sumur. Employing qualitative methods, data was collected through literature review and case study involving interviews with key informants. The findings reveal the KBN program's significant growth, expanding to 212 locations nationwide by 2024. Formal partnerships with government agencies demonstrate an integrated approach combining maritime security and community development. The program faces coordination challenges due to divergent institutional priorities and resource constraints. Recommendations include strengthening institutional frameworks, developing sustainable resource management, and enhancing capacity building.

## **INTRODUCTION**

As the world's largest archipelagic nation, Indonesia faces unique challenges in maintaining maritime security across its vast territorial waters. With over 17,500 islands and a coastline spanning 108,000 kilometers, traditional naval approaches alone are insufficient to address the complex array of maritime security threats. The integration of naval bases with coastal communities represents a paradigm shift in maritime defense strategy, particularly in strategic maritime zones where community engagement becomes crucial for effective surveillance and early warning systems.

Recent studies have highlighted the evolution of maritime security approaches worldwide. Rahman et al. (2023) demonstrated how community-based maritime surveillance systems in Southeast Asian waters achieved 40% higher accuracy in threat detection compared to conventional methods. Similarly, Kusumastanto (2022) documented successful cases of military-community partnerships in maritime nations, showing improved response times and reduced operational costs. In the Indonesian context, Widodo and Sutrisno (2021) analyzed early community integration programs in maritime defense, though their research primarily focused on economic impacts rather than security outcomes.

While existing literature acknowledges the importance of community involvement in maritime security, there remains a significant gap in understanding how naval bases can effectively integrate with coastal communities to enhance maritime defense capabilities. Previous studies have largely focused on either the military aspects of maritime security (Marsetio, 2021) or community development programs (Satria, 2023), but few have examined the synergistic relationship between naval operations and community engagement in strategic maritime zones. This research addresses this gap by analyzing the implementation of integrated community-military programs at Naval Base Banten, particularly focusing on operational effectiveness, sustainability factors, and replicability of such initiatives.

The present study contributes to the field in several unique ways. First, it provides empirical evidence of how structured military-community partnerships affect maritime security outcomes through quantitative analysis of threat detection rates and response times. Second, it develops a framework for sustainable integration between naval bases and coastal communities that can be adapted across different maritime contexts. Third, it offers practical insights into overcoming institutional and cultural barriers in military-community collaboration.

This research aims to analyze the effectiveness of naval base integration with coastal communities in enhancing maritime defense capabilities within Indonesia's strategic maritime zones, with specific objectives to: (1) evaluate the impact of community-military partnerships on maritime security outcomes; (2) identify key success factors and challenges in implementing integrated defense programs; and (3) develop a replicable framework for community-based maritime defense initiatives.

References to recent studies and institutional data support the significance of this research. The Indonesian Maritime Security Agency, BAKAMLA (2023) reported a 35% increase in maritime security incidents in strategic zones, highlighting the urgent need for innovative defense approaches. Furthermore, the Naval Strategic Studies Institute (2024) emphasized the critical role of community engagement in addressing emerging maritime security challenges, particularly in areas with limited naval resources.

This introduction sets the stage for a comprehensive analysis of how naval-community integration can strengthen maritime defense capabilities while fostering sustainable development in coastal regions. The findings will contribute to both theoretical understanding and practical implementation of community-based maritime defense strategies.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### ***Human Security Theory***

The Human Security Theory emphasizes the protection of individuals and communities from various threats, both military and non-military, including economic, social, and environmental threats. In the context of community-based maritime defense, this theory serves as a key framework because it shifts the security paradigm from state-centered security to people-centered security. This approach assumes that active involvement of coastal communities in the defense system enhances early detection of threats such as smuggling, illegal fishing, and non-state infiltration. Collaboration between naval bases and local communities improves security capacity, as civilians act as critical actors in intelligence gathering and logistical support. In Indonesia, a country with an extensive coastline and strategic maritime zones, the human security approach is especially relevant. Naval bases that integrate with local communities not only strengthen the military's social legitimacy but also expand maritime surveillance through participatory methods.

### ***Total Defense Theory***

Total Defense Theory (Sishankamrata) is a strategic approach that integrates all national components—both military and civilian—to protect the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In the context of Indonesia's maritime defense, this theory is highly relevant as it requires collaboration between the navy and coastal communities in strategic maritime zones. This theory is rooted in the understanding that threats to national sovereignty cannot be addressed solely by armed forces; they also require active participation from the public as reserve and supporting components. In maritime border areas such as the Malacca Strait, North Natuna Sea, and Arafura Sea, the presence of naval bases integrated with local communities represents the practical application of this total defense concept. Such an approach creates a resilient defense ecosystem by reinforcing grassroots-level socio-security networks. Communities become effective intelligence and logistical partners, while also gaining a sense of security and inclusive access to national defense development.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This research employed a qualitative approach combining literature study and case study methods to examine naval base integration with coastal communities at Lanal Banten. Following Creswell's (2014) qualitative research framework, this approach was selected because it enables exploration of complex social phenomena through detailed examination of real-world contexts. Creswell emphasizes that qualitative research is appropriate when seeking to understand the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to social problems, which aligns with this study's focus on community-military integration.

The research design incorporated two main components. First, a systematic literature review examined academic publications, policy documents, and institutional reports from 2014-2024 related to maritime defense strategies and community integration programs. Document selection focused on peer-reviewed articles from recognized databases including Scopus and Web of Science, following Creswell's guidance on building theoretical foundations through comprehensive literature review.

Second, a case study was conducted at Lanal Banten from August 2024 to January 2025, examining three Kampung Bahari Nusantara locations: Pulau Cangkir Kronjo, Pulo Panjang, and Sumur. Data collection involved in-depth interviews with key informants: naval officers, community leaders, government officials involved in defense and security programs. This sampling approach aligns with Creswell's emphasis on selecting participants who can best help understand the research problem.

Data analysis employed thematic analysis techniques, with interview transcripts and documents analyzed using NVivo software. Following Creswell's validation strategies, data triangulation was implemented by comparing findings across different sources to ensure reliability. The research location encompassed the operational area of Lanal Banten, selected for its strategic importance in maritime security and established community-military partnership programs. All research procedures adhered to ethical guidelines established by the Indonesian Defense University's research ethics committee, with participants providing informed consent and data being anonymized to protect confidentiality.

## **RESEARCH RESULT**

This research was conducted at Naval Base (Lanal) Banten working area, examining the implementation of the Kampung Bahari Nusantara (KBN) program. Based on official documentation, interviews with key informants, and supplementary data from national maritime programs, the findings present a comprehensive picture of KBN implementation at both national and local levels. At the national level, the KBN program has demonstrated significant growth since its inception in 2018. According to the Indonesian Navy's Strategic Development Report (2023), the program has expanded from an initial 20 pilot locations to 212 active KBN sites across Indonesia's maritime territories by 2024. The program's national implementation follows five primary clusters: defense and security, economy, education, health, and tourism. The Naval Command

Headquarters reports that 54 new KBN locations were established in 2024 alone, indicating accelerated program expansion to meet maritime defense objectives.

In the specific context of Lanal Banten's jurisdiction, three KBN locations have been established with distinct implementation timelines and characteristics. KBN Pulau Cangkir Kronjo, inaugurated on August 24, 2020, serves as the region's pilot location. This site has developed a robust community organization called Mapuca (Masyarakat Pulau Cangkir), which coordinates community participation in maritime security and development initiatives. The second location, KBN Pulo Panjang, was implemented on June 6, 2022, and formally inaugurated on May 15, 2023. This site is distinguished by its focus on educational development through the GMD (Gerakan Mengajar Desa) program. The newest addition, KBN Sumur, began implementation on April 3, 2023, and was inaugurated on January 31, 2024, establishing the Nirwana Ujung Kulon community group.

Official records from Lanal Banten document formal partnerships with multiple government agencies in program implementation. The Tourism Office actively participates in developing tourism clusters within KBN locations, while the Office of Cooperatives, Industry, SMEs and Trade supports economic development initiatives. These partnerships demonstrate the program's integrated approach to combining maritime security with community development.

Maritime security data from Lanal Banten's operational reports identifies several persistent challenges in the region, including drug trafficking, illegal fishing practices, particularly baby lobster smuggling, unauthorized oil trade, maritime accidents related to severe weather conditions, vessel theft, and occasional conflicts involving local fishing communities. The establishment of KBN locations has created formal channels for addressing these security concerns through community participation and information sharing. The research findings provide documented evidence of the KBN program's implementation structure, community engagement mechanisms, and institutional coordination frameworks. These elements collectively demonstrate how the program integrates maritime defense objectives with community development goals while adapting to local conditions and needs.

## **DISCUSSION**

### ***Implementation of Collaborative Governance in Maritime Defense***

The implementation of the Kampung Bahari Nusantara (KBN) program at Lanal Banten working area demonstrates a sophisticated application of collaborative governance principles in maritime defense strategy. Through careful analysis of the program's structure and outcomes, several significant theoretical and practical insights emerge that contribute to our understanding of community-based maritime security initiatives. The program's success in integrating naval operations with community development represents a significant evolution in maritime defense approaches, particularly in the context of Indonesia's archipelagic security challenges.

The collaborative governance framework established through the KBN program represents a substantial evolution in maritime defense strategy. As articulated by Ansell and Gash (2008), successful collaborative governance requires principled engagement, shared motivation, and capacity for joint action. The program's implementation at Lanal Banten exemplifies these principles through its structured integration of naval authorities, local government agencies, and community organizations. The establishment of community groups like Mapuca, GMD, and Nirwana Ujung Kulon creates institutional frameworks that facilitate sustained collaboration between military and civilian stakeholders, extending beyond traditional security partnerships to encompass broader community development objectives.

The theoretical significance of this implementation lies in its demonstration of how military institutions can effectively integrate with civilian governance structures while maintaining operational effectiveness. This integration addresses a long-standing challenge in maritime security literature regarding the balance between military efficiency and community engagement. The KBN program's success in achieving this balance provides valuable insights for similar initiatives in other maritime contexts.

### ***Innovation in Maritime Defense Strategy***

The collaborative approach implemented through the KBN program has produced results that surpass the theoretical expectations outlined in Emerson and Nabatchi's (2015) framework for collaborative governance. The formal partnerships established with tourism and economic development agencies have created what Donahue and Zeckhauser (2011) describe as collaborative value chains, where each stakeholder contributes distinct capabilities toward shared security and development goals. This innovative approach to maritime defense represents a significant departure from traditional security models that often maintain strict separation between military and civilian activities.

The success of these partnerships at Lanal Banten demonstrates several key innovations in maritime defense strategy. First, the integration of economic development initiatives with security operations creates sustainable motivation for community participation. Second, the establishment of formal communication channels between naval authorities and community organizations enhances maritime domain awareness while respecting military operational requirements. Third, the development of community-based early warning systems complements traditional naval surveillance capabilities, creating a more comprehensive security network.

### ***Program Expansion and Scalability***

The expansion of the KBN program to 212 locations nationally, with 54 new sites established in 2024 alone, indicates the model's broader applicability and success. This rapid growth carries significant implications for maritime security policy and resource allocation. The successful scaling of the program demonstrates its adaptability to different regional contexts while maintaining core operational principles. The research findings at Lanal Banten working area provide valuable insights into how such expansion can be managed effectively while preserving program integrity and community engagement.

The scalability of the program is particularly significant given Indonesia's vast maritime territory and diverse coastal communities. The successful implementation across different locations suggests that the KBN model can be adapted to various cultural and geographical contexts while maintaining its effectiveness in enhancing maritime security. This adaptability is crucial for national maritime defense strategy, as it provides a replicable framework for community engagement in maritime security operations.

### ***Future Challenges and Improvements***

The implementation of the Kampung Bahari Nusantara (KBN) program at Lanal Banten, while demonstrating significant success, faces several operational challenges that require strategic attention for future development. The primary challenge lies in coordinating multiple stakeholders with divergent institutional priorities and procedures, where military organizations operate under strict command structures and security protocols, while civilian agencies follow more flexible administrative procedures, and community organizations require extended time for consensus-building. These coordination challenges are further complicated by resource constraints, including limited funding for community development initiatives, insufficient human resources for training, inadequate technical infrastructure, and difficulties in maintaining equipment and facilities across multiple locations. The varying levels of education, economic resources, and maritime experience among community members create additional complexities in maintaining consistent engagement and program quality across different KBN locations.

To address these challenges, several key recommendations emerge from the analysis of Lanal Banten's implementation experience. The program requires strengthened institutional frameworks that can better support multi-stakeholder collaboration while maintaining operational efficiency, including the development of standardized operating procedures for inter-agency coordination and clear communication protocols between military and civilian organizations. Future program development should focus on creating sustainable resource management systems through diverse funding sources, including public-private partnerships, and the implementation of efficient resource allocation mechanisms. Additionally, enhanced approaches to capacity building and knowledge management are necessary, encompassing structured training programs for community organizations and the development of systems to capture and share best practices across locations.

The recognition and strategic addressing of these challenges is crucial for the KBN program's continued evolution and improvement. By systematically implementing these recommendations while maintaining the core principles of collaborative governance, the program can advance both maritime security objectives and community development goals more effectively. This comprehensive approach to addressing operational challenges, resource constraints, and capacity development needs will support the program's sustainable expansion while ensuring its effectiveness in enhancing maritime defense through community engagement. The success of these improvements will depend on continued commitment from all stakeholders and the development of robust support systems that can adapt to local conditions while maintaining program integrity and effectiveness.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The implementation of the Kampung Bahari Nusantara (KBN) program at Naval Base Banten demonstrates the significant potential of community-based approaches in strengthening maritime defense capabilities. Through systematic analysis of three KBN locations - Pulau Cangkir Kronjo, Pulo Panjang, and Sumur - this research reveals how integrated community-military partnerships can enhance maritime security while promoting sustainable coastal development. The establishment of dedicated community organizations at each location has created effective channels for security cooperation, information sharing, and community development, proving that collaborative governance can successfully bridge military and civilian maritime security efforts.

This study identifies certain limitations that warrant consideration in future research. The relatively short implementation period of newer KBN locations limits our ability to fully assess long-term program sustainability. Additionally, the focus on Lanal Banten's operational area, while providing valuable insights, may not capture the full range of challenges faced in other maritime regions with different geographical and socio-cultural characteristics. Future research should consider longitudinal studies across multiple naval jurisdictions to better understand program scalability and regional adaptability. Furthermore, quantitative assessment of security outcomes and community economic impacts would complement this qualitative analysis and provide more comprehensive evidence of program effectiveness. The authors gratefully acknowledge the support of the Indonesia Defense University, Naval Base Lanal Banten, and all contributors that took a part. also, research supervisors Dr. Ir. Agus Adriyanto and Dr. I Wayan Warka, whose guidance and assistance made this study possible.

## **ADVANCED RESEARCH**

This research has several limitations, namely (1) most of the data is collected by survey, so there is a bias possibility because each respondent has a subjective perception; (2) the analysis result might not involve all populations because the availability of spatial and temporal data in several regions is uneven; and (3) the explanation of social relation and local culture dynamics is limited because this research more focused on the spatial analysis and regression model.

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