

Para diplomacy through Sister City Cooperation: Efforts to Increase the Potential of the Agricultural Sector in Karawang District

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Abstract. This research aims to increase the potential efforts of the agricultural sector in Karawang district by using the concept of sister city cooperation paradiplomacy as one of the local government's innovation efforts in providing welfare and the economy of the community. In this globalization era, the actor of the international relation is not just a state, but there are a lot of another actor and one of them is the sub-state or the regional government. In Indonesia, the state gives regional government the opportunity to involved in the international cooperation. This study uses a qualitative method by interviewing trusted sources and also literature studies. Karawang as a city that has great potential in agriculture can increase this potential by implementing the sister city agreement. Then, Chilgok-gun in Gyeongsangbuk-do, South Korea can become one of the best potential partners for Karawang in implementing Sister city in the agricultural sector.

1 Introduction

Humans collaborate in numerous domains of life, which makes cooperation one of the most important aspects of existence. People can work together with other people, people with groups, or groups with other groups. Cooperation, as defined by the Cambridge Dictionary, is the process of working together with a company, organization, or country to accomplish shared objectives[1]. It can also be defined as working together to accomplish shared goals. Collaboratively, individuals strive to accomplish objectives that are advantageous to the entire group, including themselves[2]. Therefore, it can be concluded that cooperation is the desire to work together with other individuals as a whole and become part of the group in achieving common interests.

Advances in communication technology have enabled globalization, and interconnectedness among countries and issues is becoming increasingly noticeable. This has prompted new policies and approaches to be used in the management of international relations and resulted in significant changes at the national, regional, and global levels. Consequently, a world without borders has surfaced, seemingly building a global village for the global society[3]. Globalization has led to the inclusion of non-state actors in international relations, such as regions, individuals, multinational firms, NGOs,

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international organizations, and the media. This illustrates how intricate the numerous players in international relations and cooperation are, especially when it comes to making decisions[4].

When the author looks at the state as the unit of study, the central government is no longer the only entity with the capacity to forge international cooperative ties. In a nation that cannot be addressed separately, a nation seeks to exactly fulfill the national interest in accordance with the satisfaction of the community's individual regional desires. Consequently, part of the authority held by the federal government to foster global cooperation is delegated to local governments. Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government indicates that adjustments are required to the authority for implementing foreign relations and cooperation, which was formerly governed by Law No. 22 of 1999 concerning Regional Government[4]. Foreign policy is the responsibility of the central government, but as new laws and policies governing regional autonomy have been developed, regional administrations are now also able to work with foreign governments. Local governments recently liberalized access to international cooperation, such as through sister city/province cooperation.

The author's selected topic on this occasion is sister-city collaboration. Sister city cooperation is thought to be particularly beneficial to the government's operations in encouraging the community and the regional government to take an active role in development. It is envisaged that the region and its partners will be able to have a mutually beneficial and reciprocal connection through the sister city collaboration. Sister city cooperation is a cooperation agreement between two cities, regions at the provincial, state or prefecture level that have one or more similar characteristics where the two regions are in two different countries.

The total area of Karawang Regency is 1,753.27 km², or 175,327 hectares. In the West Java Province, Karawang Regency is located close to the cities of Subang and Bekasi. In terms of economic potential, the Karawang area's strongest asset is its agricultural, industrial, mining, fishing, and tourism potential[5]. Karawang Regency is conveniently positioned near Bandung, the administrative center of West Java province, and Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia, in addition to its variety of potential.

The Karawang district's most promising industry, agriculture, will be the author's main focus this time. Karawang Regency is one of the (rice) food barns in West Java Province, and its preservation is necessary for the country's food security. Karawang is urged to develop into a cutting-edge agricultural prototype capable of three harvests every season. The agriculture minister, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, claims that this is conceivable because Karawang is a bountiful area and has established itself as a national food barn. Karawang's average harvest yield of 8 tons of rice per hectare has allowed it to contribute significantly to the nation's food needs thus far[6]. As a result, the actions taken by farmers and local government representatives align with the expectations of the community. It would be unfortunate if Karawang was unable to fully utilize this opportunity. Referring to the description above, this research wants to examine How the idea of sister city collaboration used to boost the agricultural sector in Karawang Regency?

The author chose this subject because local governments ought to be aware about collaboration with foreign parties as well. This partnership can help the region expand, and the region will surely benefit greatly from it. Thomas L. Friedman claims that the characteristics of global connection offer opportunities for everyone to compete to showcase their unique identities while broadly propagating their local beliefs[7]. By permitting local governments to take an active part in international relations and cooperation, the state in this case complies with Law Number 37 of 1999 with Foreign Contacts and Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government. Indonesia's province and district/city administrations were given the authority to create international

engagement in response to the widespread trend of nations competing with one another to attain the best results. With the help of this authority, regional governments can create global networks that will boost their competitiveness and boost regional investment[8]. This research is also considered to be in accordance with one of the focuses of study specialization in the department of international relations, namely diplomacy, because this research will discuss diplomacy through paradiplomacy.

1.1 Theoretical Framework

1.1.1 Paradiplomacy

Paradiplomacy is a new phenomenon in the study of international relations. Panayotis used the term paradiplomacy for the first time in the 1980s which is a combination of the words parallel diplomacy[8]. The concept of paradiplomacy then becomes an approach that is often used to explain international relations problems by regional actors. Duchaeck explained that Paradiplomacy has three types, namely:

- a. Trans holder Paradiplomacy refers to formal and informal institutional relationships between local administrations of nations that are geographically adjacent, yet in different countries.
- b. Transregional Paradiplomacy, specifically, regional governments in different countries that are not directly neighbors, but the countries where the two governments are located immediately neighbor in the same region, carry out diplomatic relations.
- c. Global Paradiplomacy is the conduct of diplomatic relations by regional governments of distinct nations, regions, and portions of the world[9].

It can be seen from Law Number 24 of 2000 concerning International Treaties and Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government grants authority to Regional Governments, both provincial and district/city, to establish relations and cooperate with foreign sides, Indonesia has relatively free legal space in paradiplomacy [10].

1.1.2 Sister City Concept

Sister City cooperation was formed because of the equality of position and administrative status, equality of area size and function, similarities of regional socio-cultural and topographical characteristics, common problems faced, and complementarity between the two parties with the aim of building cooperative relations in exchange of visits by officials or businessmen, which will lead to cooperation in the relationship of goods and services[11]. The goals of the Sister City collaboration program are to foster economic growth, cultural advancement, and complete city-level cooperation. In this instance, the sister city concept's implementation seeks to:

- a. Strengthening cooperation between cities in the world.
- b. Providing opportunities for city officials and the public to experience and explore other cultures in long-term cooperation
- c. Creating conditions in which economic and societal development can be implemented and strengthened
- d. Stimulate an environment in which people seek to learn, work, and solve problems together creatively in cultural, educational, urban, business, professional, and technical exchanges, and projects interchange.
- e. Collaborate with organizations around the world and that share similar goals[10].

The author uses the concept of paradiplomacy—that is, sister cities—because it may be utilized to explain every aspect of the subject at hand. Adopting the sister city concept is one way to increase Karawang Regency's agricultural potential. In the sister city concept, local government is an actor in the cooperation, this is related to the existing discussion that the regional government cooperation is carried out through careful consideration by looking at several aspects and existing factors so that this becomes the basis for being able to maximizing the Indonesian government, especially the local government in achieving its goals, that is to increase the economic welfare of the community, one of which is by increasing the agricultural industry.

2 Research Method

2.1 Research Subject

The subject of the research is something that is being studied by institutions (organizations), individuals, or things. In essence, the people who will be exposed to the findings of the investigation are the research subjects. In this research subject, there are research objects. In this study the subjects taken were humans, more specifically in the form of members or staff from BAPPEDA, the Department of Agriculture, and the Field of Regional Cooperation in Karawang Regency.

2.2 Research Object

The research object is a scientific target to obtain data with a specific purpose and use for an objective, valid and reliable matter about a particular matter or variable[12]. The object of this research is how literature study and information from interview can be implemented into Sister City Cooperation efforts in improving the agricultural industry in Karawang Regency.

2.2.1 Type of Research

The researcher took a qualitative approach to this study. Research using a qualitative technique is done to look at a natural object's state. One such tool is the researcher. The results of qualitative research placed an emphasis on meaning rather than generalization. The data collection method was qualitative, and the data processing was inductive and qualitative[12]. This type of research is included in exploratory research, which is carried out to find out and explain the problem in general, then the researcher conducts research. Explorative research has problems that have never been explored and seeks to find or reveal problems that are or will be needed in the research[13].

The sort of data that will be collected for this study is qualitative data. The information to be examined in this study originates from verbal declarations or written descriptions of things that are expressed in the form of written or spoken explanations. We can see from the preceding phrase that the primary goal of data analysis is to arrange data. Following the above-mentioned way of gathering data from the field, the researcher will use analytical analysis, qualitative descriptive techniques, to process and analyze the data without the need for quantitative approaches.

For the research method, the author used primary data in the form of interviews with informants which was also combined with secondary data collection in the form of literature. The author used this secondary data to strengthen findings and complement information that has been collected through direct interviews.

3 Result and Discussion

3.1 Paradiplomacy through Sister City Collaboration

The idea of paradiplomacy, which is a development of modern diplomacy in international relations, is fascinating to examine. The idea of paradiplomacy presents a challenge to fields studying international relations, both conceptually and practically. It is possible to define paradiplomacy as the development of actors other than the state's capacity to conduct foreign policy. City/regional governments, provincial governments, federations, and units given special autonomy by the state are actors aside from the state in question. The foundational pillars of paradiplomacy have historically not diverged significantly from the definition of diplomacy, which is based on three basic pillars: held within the framework of establishing peace relations, mutual recognition of their respective countries' sovereignty, and establishing long-term friendly relations [14].

One strategy that local and regional governments frequently use in their paradiplomacy efforts is the sister city concept. A sister city is a long-term, formally sanctioned collaboration between two distinct cities within the nation. It is necessary to define sister city understanding as a cooperative endeavor between cities that yield benefits to both parties. There are three categories of traits that define a sister city, which are as follows:

- a. Associates which lead to the notion of "international friendship," cultural exchange and concern for international issues.
- b. Reciprocal, namely developing an exchange system in the field of Education.
- c. Commercial as an effort to take advantage of both processes (Associative and Reciprocal) for the benefit of increasing the local economy [15].

The goal of the sister city scheme is for the two cities to work together and take mutual benefits. Referring to the argument above, in principle, the Karawang Regency government could commercialize in the international network by opening wide areas with its agricultural industry and can get a positive impact from sister city activities.

Seeing the advantages obtained by conducting sister city cooperation, the author needs to know that there are weaknesses, namely; there is public indifference or apathy towards sister city relations, the process of selecting cities to be partners does not involve the community and tends to be "strange choice", third, this sister city scheme is often used as a medium for politicians to travel abroad for fun, where these activities are financed by the local government using public tax money sources [15].

Nevertheless, awareness of the importance of paradiplomacy carried out by city/regional governments to improve welfare and economic development as well as to promote culture and society to empower urban communities makes paradiplomacy one of the strategic roles that can be carried out by city/regional governments. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the ability, capability, and capacity to treat paradiplomacy. Only with human resources could carry out paradiplomacy by cities/regions so that the implementation of paradiplomacy is not just ceremonial.

3.1.1 Agricultural Potential in Karawang Regency

Karawang Regency is located in the northern part of West Java Province with an area of 1,753.27 km², geographically located between 107° 02' - 107° 40' East Longitude and 5° 56' - 6° 34' South Latitude. Karawang Regency is an area that has fertile land, so most of the land is used for agriculture. Karawang Regency is topographically mostly in the form of lowlands with a height of ± 25 m above sea level. The Karawang Regency area is mostly

covered by a wide coastal plain that stretches on the north side. Only a small part of the area is bumpy and hilly in the south.

Administratively, Karawang Regency is divided into 30 sub-districts, with 297 villages and 12 sub-districts. In running the wheels of government, Karawang Regency has regional apparatus organizations consisting of 1 Regional Secretariat, 1 DPRD Secretariat, 21 Services, 5 Agencies, 1 National Unity and Politics Office, 1 Civil Service Police Unit and 1 Regional General Hospital. Karawang Regency is also located in a strategic area because it is not far from the capital city of Indonesia, Jakarta, and the administrative center of West Java province, which is located in Bandung.

Karawang has many strong agricultural fields, such as rice, Palawija, and Mushrooms. The following is the Karawang district sectoral statistics book data in 2019.

Table 1. Recapitulation of the Development Rate of Production and Productivity of Lowland Rice in Karawang District

No	Year	Harvest Area (Ha)	Production (Ton GKP)	Productivity (Ton/Ha)
1	2014	198,519	1,498,502	7,605
2	2015	192,626	1,531,105	7,999
3	2016	194,902	1,464,261	7,539
4	2017	195,784	1,347,623	6,901
5	2018	195,353	1,531,567	7,840
6	2019	188,053	1,401,690	7,453

Source: [16]

Table 2. Recapitulation of the Rate of Development of Productivity of Corps in Karawang District

No	Type of Palawija crops	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
		Quintals/ Ha					
1	Soya beans	14.36	12.96	15.70	15.48	12.98	15.66
2	Mung beans	11.42	16.22	13.84	10.59	10.13	9.67
3	Dry shelled corn	58.00	58.68	60.20	56.69	59.03	59.73
4	Cassava	195	145.04	167.07	129.95	178.05	145
5	Sweet potato	150	78.07	147.48	129.95	110	-

Source: [16]

Table 3. Recapitulation of the Rate of Development of Straw Mushroom Productivity

No	Year	Number of lemurs (Unit)	Production (Quintals)	Productivity (Quintals/Lemur)
1	2016	3,300	10,000	3.03
2	2017	3,200	12,500	3.91
3	2018	3,100	11,500	3.71
4	2019	3,000	10,000	3.33

Source: [16]

However, rice is the strongest agricultural product in Karawang Regency. This was also agreed upon by research informants, then based on data in the district's sectoral statistics book in 2019 the Karawang region as a whole produced 1,399,198 tons of rice, while its rice field area reached 94,354 hectares [16]. The interviewees also agreed that rice is the best agricultural potential in Karawang. Apart from having tens of thousands of hectares of rice fields, Karawang also has extraordinary technical irrigation, from the Jatiluhur

reservoir which other regions may not have. Then rice farming in Karawang can harvest 3 times a year and a harvest program is being developed 4 times a year.

Karawang Regency is one of the food barns (rice) in West Java Province, and it must be protected for the purpose of the food security of the entire country. Karawang is urged to develop into a cutting-edge agricultural prototype capable of three harvests every season. Syahrul Yasin Limpo, the Minister of Agriculture, claims that Karawang is a bountiful region that has established itself as a national food barn, which is why this could occur. Karawang has so far made an outstanding contribution to the country's food needs; on average, each harvest yields eight tons of rice per hectare[6]. Thus, it can be ascertained that Karawang Regency is one of the areas that has many agricultural sectors and provides great potential to develop a more advanced national agricultural sector, especially in the field of rice. The Karawang district government has also firmly issued Karawang regional regulation no 1 of 2018 regarding the protection of sustainable food agricultural land which is expected to protect Karawang agricultural land from the conversion of agricultural land[17].

This can have a major impact and contribution to economic development in the surrounding area, especially for farmers. It is hoped that with this collaboration, they can produce better and more crops. Due to the increase in quality and agricultural output, Karawang is expected to progress and become known as a rice city with the additional title of being a rice city that has modern agricultural technology. So that it can become a national agricultural sector, it is even hoped that it can export agricultural products abroad.

3.1.2 Sister City Collaboration Efforts in Karawang Regency

The existence of the implementation of paradiplomacy by regional/city governments has an important meaning not only for developing the welfare and economy of the local community, but also supporting total diplomacy carried out by the central government for the achievement of national interests. If paradiplomacy is managed properly, it will have an impact on helping to increase Indonesia's capabilities in the international system. Through good management of paradiplomacy, it can apply the right policies and avoid concerns from the negative effects of paradiplomacy, one of the negative effects of paradiplomacy is seeking separatist support. Likewise with city/regional governments, if they are not able to make good use of it, it will have an impact on the city being left behind from other urban areas that are able to take advantage of good opportunities in paradiplomacy.

In this case, one of the efforts to carry out sister city cooperation is through requirements. There are requirements that must be met by the regional government of Karawang, namely: equality of administrative status; characteristic similarity; common problem; complementary efforts; and improving relations between communities. Meanwhile for cooperation of a technical nature, such as humanitarian assistance, in addition to the general requirements as stated above, the city/regional government must also pay attention to requirements, such as increasing the capacity and skills of human resources in administering city government, the financial capacity of the city, the priority of domestic production and the independence of the city.

The sister city cooperation program is contained in Law No. 37 of 1999 concerning Foreign Relations and Law No. 32 of 2004, as well as the study of the Minister of Foreign Affairs No. 09/A/KP/XII/2006/01 concerning General Guidelines for Foreign Relations and Cooperation by Regional Governments. Sub-state actors, such as cities and/or regencies, can independently participate in carrying out international cooperation with other parties abroad if it does not conflict with Indonesian national interests. This is based on Law No. 32 of 2004 concerning regional government, which is based on the spirit of decentralization

and regional autonomy. The foreign ministry's involvement in this situation is primarily to serve as a leader and facilitator[15].

In order to conduct out international cooperation, city/regional administrations must fulfill a number of requirements, including:

- a. Cooperation with countries that have diplomatic relations with Indonesia
- b. Be in accordance with the area of authority of the regional government as regulated in the national laws of the Republic of Indonesia.
- c. Get approval from the Regional Representative Council (DPRD).
- d. Does not disturb political stability and domestic security
- e. Does not lead to interference in the internal affairs of each country
- f. Be based on the principle of equal rights and not forcing each other's will.
- g. Pays attention to the principle of equality, provide benefits and be profitable for local governments and the community.
- h. Support governance, national and regional development and community empowerment[15].

In efforts to implement sister cities, there are several principles that are used as a reference, even though from one city to another, the principles may vary [18]. These principles are the existence of similarities, exchange or potential for exchange both in terms of culture, education, to the economy, reciprocity, community-oriented, strategic benefits, exclusivity and closeness, political stability.

If Karawang can carry out sister city collaboration well, of course Karawang will get a positive impact from the sister city cooperation, such as the opportunity to exchange experience and knowledge in managing development in the fields that are collaborated on, encourage the emergence of ideas and the active role of city government and other stakeholders, strengthen the friendship between government and society both parties, as a culture transfer opportunity to enrich regional culture. However, on the other hand, the sister city scheme also has several negative impacts, including increasing the state or regional financial burden because it uses APBN or APBD funds, tends to wait for facilitation from the government, has the potential for inequality in unbalanced cooperation so that it only benefits one party [18].

According to the results of interviews with several informants, the Karawang Regency Government has begun to focus attention on international cooperation, this is evidenced by the creation of a new field in the regional cooperation agency, namely the field of international cooperation which is expected to advance the Karawang government by cooperating with outsiders. Then, the Cooperation field has also conducted research and also conducted comparative studies to several regions in Indonesia which have carried out sister city collaborations in the hope that the data will gain new insights in the implementation of the collaboration, for example study visits to the city of Semarang, conducting socialization of regional cooperation and inviting Shizuoka prefecture which is a partner sister province of West Java province, and then will also carry out comparative study activities to the city of Riau at the end of this November. For the sister city study, the Cooperation section has communicated with the Karawang Regency Regional Planning and Development Agency and it is planned that the study will begin in early 2023 and it is hoped that this collaboration can begin in 2024. Behind this statement, unfortunately, there are several obstacles and challenges to entering into international cooperation agreements, especially this sister city cooperation. First, bearing in mind that the International Cooperation division in the Karawang Regency Government is a division that was just created in June 2021 at the discretion of the Karawang Regent, so this division still has many shortcomings, such as the absence of a specific road map for the implementation of international cooperation, and this makes movement towards international cooperation agreements by the government of Karawang tend to be slow. Second, the Government of

Karawang, especially in the International Cooperation division, is experiencing a shortage of human resources. Currently there is only one person in charge of the division, then they also do not have human resources or staff who can speak English, which is very difficult for the collaboration process. Because remembering that in the process of international cooperation communication is needed to reach an agreement.

3.1.3 Region that has the Potential to Become Partners in Sister Cities

In a partnership, of course we have to mutually benefit each other, and to determine partners in the sister city Cooperation agreement we must know what potential the Karawang region has, what they need and then look for the right partner and have similarities like Karawang regency. According to the data that author collected during interviews with the informants, Karawang hopes to get partners who have similarities with Karawang district and have similar consent. So that we can share and find out the needs and solutions to problems in our respective areas, they said. Then to improve its agricultural sector, Karawang Regency expects a form of cooperation in the form of agricultural technology and experts from the area of potential cooperation partners. This technology is expected to help and increase agricultural production, especially rice in the Karawang area. The tools needed may be in the form of planting tools, harvesting tools, to tools for channelling water into the fields. Then experts are also needed to teach and guide human resources on the use of this technology. For Human Resources, Karawang has a special agricultural school, namely the Karawang State Agricultural Vocational School which is expected to be the successor to more advanced Karawang agricultural processors with this technology.

To benefit each parties, Karawang is also ready to help partner areas with agricultural products owned by Karawang if partner regions really need it. Usually Karawang has raw produce, thus, partner areas can process it into semi-finished products, as well as finished products. Then, because Karawang asked for cooperation assistance in the form of agricultural technology, then Karawang can also assist partner regions in distributing and promoting this agricultural technology within the Karawang region to other regions.

After drawing conclusions from the description above, the author considers that Gyeongsangbuk-do is suitable to be a cooperation partner from Karawang. Positioned in the southeast of the Korean peninsula, Gyeongsangbuk-do shares borders with Gangwon-do and Chungcheongbuk-do on the east, Jeollabuk-do and Chungcheongbuk-do on the west, Gyeongsangnam-do and Ulsan on the south, and the East Sea on the east. Seoul is 170-430 kilometers away from Gyeongsangbuk-do. People may travel to most parts of South Korea between 50 minutes to three hours thanks to the country's large air transportation networks, quick transit trains, and car expressways. In 1314, the first year of King Chungsu's rule in the Goryeo dynasty, this was designated Gyeongsang-do. The region was called "Gyeongsangbuk-do" when it was divided into 13 provinces in 1896, the 33rd year of King Gojong's rule in the Joseon dynasty [19].

Apart from a similar geographical location, another reason is that Gyeongsangbuk-do has established sister province cooperation with West Java in 2018. This is evidenced by the signing of the Letter of Intent agreement from both parties. At that time the Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Kim Kwan Yong said, Indonesia as a tropical country has enormous potential to be developed, especially in West Java. He also mentioned the hope of cooperation in agriculture. This is the potential that the author can see is very good for Karawang, because as a district which is located in West Java and has extraordinary agricultural potential, Karawang can progress and collaborate with them in this agricultural sector [20].

Then Gyeongsangbuk-do is currently very intensively voicing and advancing its agriculture. With the idea of a "great agricultural transition" In June last year, Gyeongsangbuk-do declared a new vision for its agricultural policy - "Advanced agriculture! Relaxed country community!" - and formed a new Agricultural Transition Promotion Committee to kick-start this great agricultural transition. The following is the content of the idea:

a. Building agriculture for the next 100 years

Just as smartphones are changing the world, technologies emerging as part of Industry 4.0 such as artificial intelligence and big data are sweeping across all industries. Meanwhile, Korea is slowly but surely learning the fact that it is no longer safe from food crises that appear to be hitting other parts of the world. Its rural communities are starting to collapse with farming households growing too old, and the effects of climate change, epidemics, etc. are causing some serious problems. In response, Gyeongsang-do is pushing to modernize its agricultural production processes and transform rural areas into places where people can relax and recuperate by building sustainable and competitive farming communities with AI, big data, and ICT.

b. Agriculture in Gyeongsangbuk-do driving innovation in agriculture across the country

Gyeongsangbuk-do has established a cutting-edge cooperative farming model that features what it calls digital agriculture innovation towns, smart agriculture clusters, and programs to develop young farmers in an attempt to bring in younger generations and help them settle into agricultural communities. Meanwhile, another policy is focused on transforming rural areas into countryside destinations with welfare farming, and corporate-affiliated healing work programs, and a nature dream park for the Yeongnam region where people can relax and recuperate. For food security, Gyeongsangbuk-do is creating agricultural complexes specializing in food crops and I promoting direct eco-friendly production. As for clean livestock farming, the Provincial Government has prepared policies to convert livestock manure into solid fuel, develop bio charcoal using livestock manure, and provide support for energy-converting facilities.

c. Gyeongsangbuk-do establishes the Agricultural Transition Promotion Committee

Gyeongsangbuk-do launched the Gyeongsangbuk-do Agricultural Transition Promotion Committee on August 17, which is an "idea bank" to advise on policies and know-how related to agriculture and new technologies in line with the province's push to usher in a new era in agriculture. The Promotion Committee features 72 private sector, industry, and academic experts across 16 different fields, including agricultural policy, smart agriculture, ICT/verse, and business management. Former Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Chairperson of Harim Group, and Professor Emeritus at Kyungpook National University have been appointed as co-Chairs of the Committee. Meanwhile, Gyeongsangbuk-do declared a new vision for its agricultural policy "Cutting-edge agriculture! Relaxing countryside communities!" in June last year.

d. Governor's office focused on researching for the great agricultural transition

Governor Lee Cheol-woo appears to have set his eyes on developing specific ideas for Gyeongsangbuk-do's great agricultural transition. Governor Lee split his day on August 5 to host a luncheon meeting and explained the need for a major transformation of agriculture in Gyeongsangbuk-do with experts in the field of high-tech agriculture and food security and collected feedback that could help the transition. The meeting was attended by a Professor Emeritus at Kyungpook National University who is an expert in agricultural policy, another professor at Kyungpook National University who is an authority in intelligent agriculture, a professor from Woosong University who specializes in the

industrialization of livestock manure material, the representative of agricultural corporation Saebom who runs a smart farm, and the Chairperson of the Korea Rice Pro-Farmer Federation's Gyeongsangbuk-do chapter who is an expert in co-farming to share their expertise in each particular field[21].

After seeing the persistence of Gyeongsangbuk-do in its agricultural activities, the author must then determine the city or district located in Gyeongsangbuk-do which is considered the most appropriate to become a partner in the Karawang sister city cooperation, and Chilgok-gun or chilgok district is considered suitable to become a partner of Karawang Regency.

Chilgok-gun, which borders Gunwi-gun and Daegu-si to the east, Gimcheon-si and Seongju-gun to the west, Daegu-si to the south, and Gumi-si to the north, is a key transportation center in the Yeongnam region and is situated in the southwest of Gyeongsangbuk-do. Chilgok is situated in a key position that is frequently traversed by main transportation to other areas, much as Karawang is situated close to a major city and serves as the primary land transportation access point. The industrial land in Chilgok Regency is identical to what's available in Karawang. In accordance with the Law on Promotion of Development of Rural Sources of Income (Law No. 3689 of 31 December 1983), small- scale industrial complexes were established in rural areas to attract factories, thereby achieving balanced national land development through rural industrialization. Because the industrial area of Chilgok Regency is small-scale, this can also be a good potential for them to build sister city partnerships with Karawang Regency which already has great industrial potential. So that in addition to agriculture, Karawang and Chilgok also have the potential to develop cooperation in the industrial sector[22]. In addition, South Korea is renowned for having extremely cutting-edge technology and is one of the developed nations in Asia. Therefore, the Karawang administration is quite optimistic that it will be able to work together and assist one another in order to obtain cutting-edge agricultural technologies from Gyeongsangbuk-do, particularly Chilgok-gun.

4 Conclusion

The significance of this research is to identify the potential for sister city cooperation in Karawang Regency in the agricultural sector. Several things that can be concluded in this study are: first, sister city is one of the models of micro cooperation used by the two cities in the path of bilateral diplomacy that focuses on increasing development in both cities/countries. The basis of the sister city concept is carried out based on administrative similarities, socio-cultural or geographical characteristics or similarities in the problems faced by the community. In the current era of globalization, relations between countries, such as paradiplomacy will be a tool in developing local potential and solving local problems. Second, Karawang has a great potential on the agricultural sector that can be used as the main point to create a sister city cooperation with another region. Third, Karawang must immediately prepare studies and requirements to carry out this sister city collaboration properly and thoroughly. Hopefully, this research can help and become suggestions for the process of implementing sister city collaboration in Karawang. Furthermore, it is hoped that the area suggested by the author to establish sister city cooperation, Gyeongsangbuk-do, especially in Chilgok district, is also in accordance with what Karawang expects.

Suggestions in carrying out sister city collaboration must be packaged with long-term goals in developing human resources, local government capacity, the community so that it can have an impact on improving people's welfare and economy. In this situation, the Karawang Regency Government needs to work quickly to maximize the potential of the current agricultural sector. One way to do this is by utilizing sister city partnerships and

paradiplomacy to enhance the community's economy and welfare through the potential of the agriculture sector. In connection with the Karawang sister city collaboration process with other actors, it must be in accordance with the applicable procedures. Then it is also hoped that if in the end the agreement in the agricultural sector is carried out, Karawang can carry out and maintain it properly, so that it can trigger cooperation in other fields as well, which in the end is expected to help the region, economy, and welfare of the people of Karawang.

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