



## ACCOUNTANTS' READINESS IN IMPLEMENTING SAK-EP: A CASE STUDY OF THE PONUWA COOPERATIVE AT GORONTALO STATE UNIVERSITY

### KESIAPAN AKUNTAN DALAM MENERAPKAN SAK-EP: STUDI KASUS KOPERASI PONUWA UNIVERSITAS NEGERI GORONTALO

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#### Abstract

This study examines the readiness of accountants in implementing the Financial Accounting Standards for Private Entities (SAK EP) at the Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University using a descriptive qualitative approach through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. The results show that the cooperative is administratively ready to prepare financial statements in the form of Business Income (PHU), capital change reports, and balance sheets in accordance with the SAK EP, which is mandatory under Permenkop UKM No. 2 of 2024. Accountants have accounting competencies and practical experience, supported by local IT systems and Excel, as well as internal supervision from supervisory bodies and university facilities. The main obstacles include uncollectible receivables due to double borrowing by members and a tax system based on the previous year's PHU. Overall, the implementation of SAK EP has effectively improved the transparency and accountability of small savings and loan cooperative financial management.

**Keywords :** SAK EP, Savings And Loan Cooperative, Accountant Readiness, Financial Statements, Ponuwa UNG Cooperative.

#### Abstrak

Penelitian ini mengkaji kesiapan akuntan dalam implementasi Standar Akuntansi Keuangan Entitas Privat (SAK EP) di Koperasi Ponuwa Universitas Negeri Gorontalo menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif melalui wawancara mendalam, observasi, dan dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa koperasi telah siap secara administratif menyusun laporan keuangan berupa Pendapatan Hasil Usaha (PHU), laporan perubahan modal, dan neraca sesuai SAK EP yang wajib berdasarkan Permenkop UKM No. 2 Tahun 2024. Akuntan memiliki kompetensi akuntansi dan pengalaman praktis, didukung sistem IT lokal dan Excel, serta pengawasan internal dari badan pengawas dan dukungan fasilitas universitas. Kendala utama meliputi piutang tak tertagih akibat peminjaman ganda anggota dan sistem



perpajakan berbasis PHU tahun sebelumnya. Secara keseluruhan, implementasi SAK EP telah efektif meningkatkan transparansi dan akuntabilitas pengelolaan keuangan koperasi simpan pinjam skala kecil.

**Kata Kunci :** SAK EP, koperasi simpan pinjam, kesiapan akuntan, laporan keuangan, koperasi Ponuwa UNG.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The implementation of Private Entity Financial Accounting Standards (SAK EP) in cooperatives is very important to improve the quality of financial reports in accordance with Permenkop UKM No. 2 of 2024. The Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University has demonstrated its readiness to prepare financial statements based on these standards, with the presentation of income statements, changes in capital, and balance sheets in accordance with the characteristics of savings and loan cooperatives (Firman et al., 2022). Accountants at the Ponuwa Cooperative have a background in accounting education and practical experience, and are supported by an information technology system that facilitates financial recording and reporting. However, challenges such as uncollectible receivables and unstable tax management still exist. Management support and internal oversight further strengthen the implementation of SAK EP, so that overall, the application of these standards has been quite effective in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the cooperative's financial management.

SAK EP is an accounting standard issued by the Indonesian Institute of Accountants (IAI) as a replacement for SAK ETAP, specifically for private entities such as cooperatives. This standard governs the preparation of financial statements based on the principles of transparency, accountability, and relevance, ensuring that the resulting reports provide a clear and reliable picture for stakeholders. The implementation of SAK EP in cooperatives aims to enhance the quality of financial statements, enabling them to serve as a basis for more accurate and strategic decision-making.

In the context of the Ponuwa UNG Cooperative, the readiness of accountants to implement SAK EP is crucial to the successful implementation of this standard. This readiness includes technical understanding, competence, and accounting systems and procedures that are in line with the characteristics of cooperatives. With an adequate level of readiness, cooperatives can prepare more transparent and accountable financial statements, thereby increasing the trust of members and related parties (Maulana et al., 2025).

SAK EP is an accounting standard issued by the Indonesian Institute of Accountants (IAI) as a replacement for SAK ETAP for private entities such as cooperatives, with the principles of transparency, accountability, and relevance emphasized by Maulana (2023) and Heriyanti (2022). Accountants play a central role in implementation through report preparation, account classification, and compliance validation, as explained in Salman's (2025) study, which highlights the adjustment of operational-non-operational account charts in cooperatives.

In the context of the Ponuwa UNG Cooperative, the readiness of accountants includes a technical understanding of SAK EP, treasurer training, and systematic data management in accordance with Permenkop No. 2/2024 to support RAT and sustainable governance. This



study emphasizes the assistance of accountants to improve the quality of transparent financial reports and reduce external dependence, thereby strengthening strategic decision-making for stakeholders (Salman & Sutisna, 2025).

SAK EP is an accounting standard issued by the Indonesian Institute of Accountants (IAI) as a replacement for SAK ETAP for private entities such as cooperatives, with an emphasis on the principles of transparency, accountability, and relevance, as noted by Maulana (2023), Heriyanti (2022), and Salman et al. (2025). Accountants play a central role in implementation through report preparation, operational-non-operational account classification, compliance validation, and treasurer training assistance, as analyzed in the KRASAN and CNS Cooperative studies to improve internal reporting independence in accordance with Permenkop No. 2/2024.

The quality of financial reports is greatly influenced by the readiness of accountants, where training, technical assistance, and accounting technology are key factors in the success of SAK EP at the Ponuwa UNG Cooperative, supporting RAT and sustainable governance as seen in the increased capacity of human resources at the Al Baitul Amien Cooperative. This study confirms that the transition to DSAK IAI regulations requires systematic accounting literacy for transparent reporting and strategic decision-making (Pembangunan et al., 2025).

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

### a. Research approach

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach to describe the perceptions and readiness of corporate accountants in applying SAK EP to real economic activities at the Ponuwa UNG Cooperative (Amelia et al., 2023).

### b. Data collection techniques

Data was obtained through direct observation of the manual Excel-based financial recording system used by the cooperative, as well as in-depth interviews with the treasurer, who is also an accounting lecturer. In addition, limited documentation was carried out on the organizational structure and transaction recording flow as indicated by the informant (Derry Nugraha, 2025).

### c. Research Subject

The main subject of the study was Dr. Harun Blongkod, S.Pd., MSA, as the cooperative treasurer. This informant was chosen because he had adequate accounting knowledge and was directly involved in preparing the cooperative's financial statements (Derry; Nugraha, 2024).

### d. Data analysis

The data was analyzed using thematic analysis, which involved grouping the results of interviews and observations into themes such as understanding SAK EP, recording practices, and readiness to implement standards. The analysis was descriptive in nature to describe the actual conditions of the cooperative without evaluating or looking for problems.



### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study indicate that the Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University is well prepared to implement the Financial Accounting Standards for Private Entities (SAK EP). From an administrative perspective, the cooperative has prepared financial statements based on applicable standards, as these statements form the basis for audits and tax liability calculations. The reports prepared include income statements or Business Income Reports (PHU), capital change reports, and balance sheets, which, according to informants, are not too complex because they are tailored to the characteristics of savings and loan cooperatives. This reflects that the cooperative is sufficiently administratively ready to implement SAK EP with a simple reporting structure that still meets standard requirements.

In terms of human resources, financial report management is handled by personnel with adequate accounting experience and competence. Informants mentioned that most managers have an accounting educational background, although this is not an absolute requirement. The willingness to learn and the ability to operate the system are important supporting factors in the readiness to implement SAK EP. These findings confirm that the readiness of cooperative accountants includes a combination of formal competence, practical experience, and the ability to adapt to the reporting system used.

In terms of information technology, the Ponuwa Cooperative has implemented a digital system for its financial management. The cooperative has even replaced its system several times to obtain more suitable technology, including the use of a locally developed system. However, manual recording using Microsoft Excel is still used as an alternative when necessary. The use of this technology contributes to the acceleration of financial data processing, efficiency in recording transactions, and consistency in preparing financial reports.

Although the cooperative's readiness is relatively good, there are still several obstacles in the implementation of SAK EP. One of the main problems arises from uncollectible receivables due to members taking out loans elsewhere without confirming with the cooperative, thereby affecting the quality of productive assets. In addition, the taxation system also poses a challenge because cooperative taxes are calculated based on the previous year's PHU and paid monthly, which is not always in line with the business conditions in the current year. These two obstacles highlight the importance of strengthening internal control procedures and continuously evaluating the cooperative taxation mechanism.

This study also found adequate support from Gorontalo State University for the cooperative's operational sustainability. The cooperative's financial reports have never been rejected because they refer to applicable standards. In addition, the cooperative receives support in the form of facilities such as buildings and has a supervisory body that monitors its activities and financial reporting. This supportive institutional environment strengthens the cooperative's readiness to consistently implement SAK EP.

The implementation of SAK EP also has a positive impact on the cooperative's financial management, particularly in terms of the distribution of PHU and fund management. The



distribution of business profits to members, employees, administrators, and reserve funds is systematically regulated in the cooperative's provisions. The standards used are considered to facilitate the preparation of financial reports because they are not too complex but remain accountable, thereby supporting the transparency and accuracy of the financial information presented.

Overall, the research results illustrate that the Ponuwa UNG Cooperative is quite well prepared to implement SAK EP, both in terms of administration, human resource competence, technological support, and institutional environment, although it still faces a number of obstacles that require a sustainable handling strategy.

The results of the study indicate that the Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University is generally ready to implement the Private Entity Accounting Standards (SAK EP). The preparation of financial statements, including the income statement (PHU), statement of changes in equity, and balance sheet, is in line with the main provisions of SAK EP, which requires private entities to present financial statements as a form of economic accountability. SAK EP is indeed designed to be simpler than public entity standards, making it suitable for the characteristics of savings and loan cooperatives, which have relatively uncomplicated transactions. Thus, the application of standards at the Ponuwa Cooperative demonstrates the alignment between reporting practices and the normative provisions of SAK EP. From a human resources perspective, the readiness of accountants at the cooperative reflects the SAK EP principle that emphasizes ease of application for small and medium-sized entities. The finding that financial managers do not all need to have an accounting education background, but rather sufficient technical competence and willingness to learn, is in line with the SAK EP's objective of facilitating understanding and implementation of the standards. This shows that experience and operational skills play an important role in the successful implementation of SAK EP in cooperatives.

The readiness of the information technology system owned by the Ponuwa Cooperative also strengthens the implementation of SAK EP. The use of IT-based systems and recording through Excel supports the characteristics of SAK EP, which emphasizes systematic, reliable, and continuous recording. Information technology helps improve the accuracy of transaction recording, facilitates the preparation of financial reports, and speeds up the tax reporting process. Thus, technological support is a major factor in maintaining the quality of financial information in accordance with the principles of relevance and reliability in SAK EP.

However, the obstacle of uncollectible receivables poses a significant challenge. From the perspective of SAK EP, receivables must be presented at their net realizable value. The existence of uncollectible receivables demonstrates the importance of applying the principle of prudence through the establishment of an allowance for bad debts so that financial statements do not show excessively high asset values. In addition, the tax system, which is still volatile, also demonstrates the need to adjust accounting policies so that tax expenses can be presented more reasonably in accordance with actual business conditions.



Management support and the institutional environment also strengthen the implementation of SAK EP at the Ponuwa Cooperative. The existence of an internal supervisory body is in line with the concept of internal control that supports the reliability of financial reports in SAK EP. In addition, the absence of rejection of financial reports indicates that the reports prepared have met the needs of stakeholders, including the university, cooperative management, and members.

Overall, the results of this study indicate that the readiness of accountants in implementing SAK EP at the Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University is supported by the suitability of standards to the characteristics of cooperatives, human resource competencies, the use of information technology, and institutional support. Although there are still technical obstacles such as uncollectible accounts receivable and tax management, the implementation of SAK EP has generally been quite effective in improving the transparency and accountability of cooperative financial management.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion, it can be concluded that the Ponuwa Cooperative of Gorontalo State University is generally ready to implement SAK Entitas Privat (SAK EP). This readiness can be seen from the preparation of financial reports that have referred to standards, adequate human resource competencies, and information technology system support that supports financial recording and reporting. The implementation of SAK EP is also supported by internal supervision through a supervisory body and institutional support from the university. Although there are still obstacles such as uncollectible receivables and a tax system that is not yet fully stable, overall the application of SAK EP at the Ponuwa Cooperative has been quite effective in improving the transparency and accountability of financial management.

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