

Depok Emas 2045: An Advanced, Prosperous, and Sustainable City of Civilization

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Abstract

Depok City, as one of the strategic regions in the Jabodetabekjur agglomeration area, has undergone significant transformation over the past two decades. Based on the Regional Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPD) 2006-2025, Depok City has made progress in various development indicators, such as an increase in the Human Development Index (HDI), poverty reduction, and regional economic growth. However, the dynamics of rapid urbanization also brought challenges, including increased infrastructure needs, environmental management, and sustainable urban governance. To address these challenges, the RPJPD 2025-2045 sets a vision of “Depok Emas 2045: An Advanced, Prosperous, and Sustainable City of Civilization”, which is aligned with the national vision of Indonesia Emas 2045. This study employs a qualitative-descriptive approach to analyze both historical progress and future strategies for urban development.

This research aims to evaluate development achievements during the 2006-2025 period, as well as formulate a development strategy for the next 20 years. Using a qualitative-descriptive approach, this research examines data from official documents such as the RPJPD 2006-2025 and RPJPD 2025-2045, development statistics, and academic literature to analyze the successes, challenges, and opportunities of Depok City. The findings show that development successes, such as increasing regional competitiveness and strengthening people's quality of life, must be balanced with innovative strategies in environmental governance, creative economy, and strengthening digital infrastructure.

This article provides strategic recommendations to support the realization of Depok Emas 2045, which includes strengthening collaboration-based governance, developing a green economy, and strengthening environmentally friendly urban infrastructure. Thus, Depok City is expected to become an example of a sustainable city that is able to adapt to global challenges while contributing to the achievement of national and international development goals.

Keywords: *Regional Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPD), Depok City.*

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INTRODUCTION

Depok City is strategically located within the Jabodetabekjur agglomeration area, has become one of the centers of urbanization and economic growth in

Source: Depok City Regional Regulation Number 9 of 2022 Depok City Spatial Plan 2022-2042

However, to realize this vision, various strategic issues must be addressed. The main challenges include improving economic competitiveness, adaptive spatial management, and strengthening human resource capacity (Hidayat & Saputra, 2021). The role of public transportation in supporting urban sustainability is one of

the main focuses (Wijayanti & Hermawan, 2021). In addition, global influences, such as climate change and digital transformation, require innovative approaches in policy planning and implementation.

This article aims to examine the development journey of Depok City over the past two decades, and evaluate the policies and achievements that support the vision of Depok Emas 2045. Through a qualitative-descriptive approach, this article explores the successes, challenges and opportunities of development in Depok, and offers strategic recommendations that are relevant to local needs and global trends. As such, this research is expected to make a tangible contribution to sustainable development planning, both at the local and national levels.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Regional Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPD) is a strategic planning document designed to guide regional development over a 20-year period (Depok City Regional Development Planning Agency, 2025). In the context of Depok City, the RPJPD 2025-2045 aligns the local vision with the national vision contained in the RPJPN (National Long-Term Development Plan). This document emphasizes the importance of integration between economic, social, and environmental development in addressing local challenges such as urbanization and demographic change. This approach is also supported by the principles set out in Law No. 25/2004 on the National Development Planning System (Republik Indonesia, 2004).

Rapid urbanization in the Jabodetabekjur region creates major challenges in spatial planning and infrastructure provision (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2023). As part of the Jabodetabekjur region, Depok City faces the impacts of rapid urbanization (World Resources Institute, 2018). Rapid urbanization can increase socio-economic risks if spatial planning is not effectively managed (World Resources Institute, 2018). Pressure on infrastructure, the environment, and public service needs are major issues. According to the RPJPD 2006-2025, effective spatial management, strengthening public transportation systems, and reducing social inequality are top priorities in addressing these challenges (Wijayanti & Hermawan, 2021). Urbanization also brings the need to create inclusive and competitive urban spaces, which is one of the focuses in the RPJPD 2025-2045.

The RPJPD 2025-2045 adopts the concept of sustainable urban development as the main frame of reference. This concept encompasses green economic development, wise environmental management, and community empowerment as the main subject of development. In addition, this approach integrates technology and innovation as key drivers of sustainability. The sustainability approach requires synergy between national and local policies to ensure development inclusiveness

(Ministry of Home Affairs, 2019). Thus, the vision of “Depok Emas 2045” becomes the foundation for creating a prosperous and environmentally friendly city. Furthermore, while the theoretical framework of sustainable urban development is clearly outlined, its direct implications for Depok’s unique socio-economic and spatial challenges could be further highlighted to strengthen the contextual relevance of the RPJPD framework.

Climate change, the digital revolution, and other global issues put additional pressure on Depok City to innovate. The RPJPD 2025-2045 highlights the need for digital transformation in governance, energy efficiency in resource management, and environmental risk mitigation as strategic steps to face global challenges. Digital transformation is an important factor in improving the efficiency of urban governance (Hidayat & Saputra, 2021). Digital transformation is a great opportunity for more efficient governance in Depok (Miller & Brown, 2019). In addition, collaboration with local and international stakeholders is key in implementing effective policies.

Depok City's RPJPD emphasizes a collaborative governance approach, involving various stakeholders from the government, community, to the private sector. This approach aims to ensure the sustainability of development and achieve the goals set out in the vision of “Depok Emas 2045.” Collaborative governance not only improves policy efficiency, but also creates a sense of ownership among the community as part of the city's development.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research used a qualitative-descriptive approach to explore Depok City's development achievements and challenges (Creswell, 2013). This approach was chosen because it is able to describe in depth the processes, dynamics, and factors that influence the development of the city from 2006 to 2045. With descriptive analysis, this research focuses on evaluating empirical data and policies contained in the RPJPD document as well as the broader development context. While this approach allows for rich narrative insights, it may not capture all quantitative dimensions of policy impact, which is acknowledged as a limitation of the study.

The data used in this study are sourced from various official documents, including the Depok City RPJPD 2006-2025 and 2025-2045, development statistical reports from BPS, as well as relevant policies stipulated in laws and regional regulations. In addition, relevant academic literature and previous research were also used to strengthen the analysis.

The data analysis technique was conducted through a thematic approach, where the collected data was grouped based on key themes such as urbanization, sustainable development, and collaborative governance (Creswell, 2013). The analysis included identifying patterns, trends, and relationships between variables

that support Depok City's development vision. The findings of this analysis are presented in narrative form to provide a comprehensive picture of the city's development direction.

Data validity was assured through source triangulation, where data from different documents and literature were compared to ensure consistency. Reliability was strengthened by referring to nationally and locally recognized official documents, as well as systematic analysis based on a clear framework.

With this approach, the research is expected to provide in-depth and relevant insights to support sustainable development planning in Depok City. The concept of sustainable development includes the integration of economic, social and environmental (United Nations, 2015).

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Evaluation of Depok City Development Based on RPJPD 2006-2025

During the 2006-2025 period, Depok City recorded various positive achievements that showed significant progress in various aspects of development. One of the main indicators is the increase in the Human Development Index (HDI), which reflects success in the education, health, and purchasing power sectors. Based on the 2006-2025 RPJPD document, the poverty rate was successfully reduced, while economic growth remained on a positive trend despite facing global challenges such as the economic crisis.

Based on the data contained in the RPJPD 2006-2025 document, Depok City has recorded various positive achievements, especially in the economic, social, and quality of life sectors. One of the main indicators in development evaluation is the increase in the Human Development Index (HDI), which reflects success in the education, health, and purchasing power sectors. Depok City's HDI increased significantly from 70.2 in 2006 to 79.0 in 2025, with a target to reach 85.0 by 2045.



Figure 2. Human Development Index of Depok City 2010-2023

Source: Depok Mayor's LKPJ 2019-2023

In addition, poverty reduction is another important achievement. In 2006, the percentage of poor people reached 16%, while by 2025 this figure is expected to fall to 8%, with a target to reach 4% by 2045. This reduction in poverty has also been accompanied by steady economic growth. Depok City's Economic Growth Rate (LPE) was recorded at 5.5% in 2006 and is expected to increase to 6.0% in 2025, with a projection of reaching 7.0% in 2045. This reflects success in managing the local economy and improving the city's competitiveness at the regional level.

However, there are some challenges that require special attention. Rapid urbanization in the Jabodetabekjur region, including Depok City, is putting great pressure on the city's infrastructure, such as transportation, sanitation, and waste management. These challenges are also exacerbated by a lack of awareness towards environmental sustainability, which affects the overall quality of life of the community (European Commission, 2020). The need for a more efficient public transportation system and environmentally friendly urban infrastructure is becoming increasingly urgent. In addition, environmental management, especially related to green open spaces and waste management, must also be continuously improved to ensure the sustainability of urban development.

Table 1. The Positive Achievements of Depok City

Aspects	Indicator	2006 Value	2025 Value	2045 Target
Economy	Economic Growth Rate (LPE)	5.5%	6.0%	7.0%
Education	Human Development Index (HDI)	70.2	79.0	85.0
Poverty	Percentage of Poor Population	16%	8%	4%
Unemployment	Open Unemployment Rate	10.4%	6.0%	3.0%
Environment	Environmental Quality Index (IKLH)	57.87	62.91	72.08
Food & Water Security	Access to Piped Drinking Water	32.66%	85%	100%
Infrastructure	Proportion of Households with Access to Sanitation	15.41%	85%	100%

Source: Bappeda 2024

This table highlights the steady upward trend in key development indicators, underscoring Depok City's progress toward long-term development goals. The table above illustrates the major achievements of Depok City during the RPJPD 2006-2025

period, which shows positive trends in various sectors. Despite significant achievements, major challenges related to urbanization and sustainable infrastructure management still need further attention.

Strategic Plan for the Period 2025-2045

The RPJPD 2025-2045 sets out a grand vision to make Depok City an “Advanced, Prosperous, and Sustainable City of Civilization.” This vision is translated into several strategic stages:

1. **Phase I (2025-2029):** Strengthening the foundation of development through improved governance and basic infrastructure.
2. **Phase II (2030-2034):** Accelerating economic development with a focus on the creative economy sector and technological innovation.
3. **Phase III (2035-2039):** Strengthening the sustainability of development through the integration of social, economic, and environmental aspects.
4. **Phase IV (2040-2045):** Realization of the vision of Depok Emas 2045 by promoting collaborative governance and sustainable innovation.

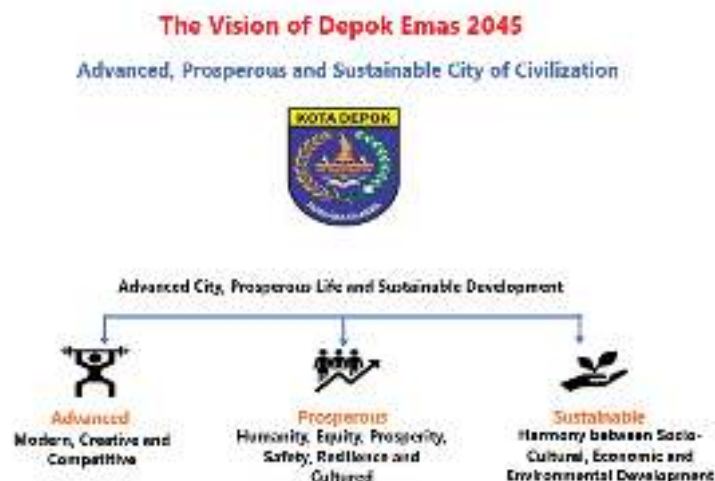


Figure 3. Designing the Vision of Depok Emas in 2025-2045

Source: Analysis result of Bappeda Depok City, 2024

Challenges and Opportunities

Although the RPJPD 2025-2045 provides a clear direction, major challenges remain. One of them is climate change that impacts the carrying capacity of the city's environment. Climate change mitigation has become a top priority in Depok City's development strategy through resource management and green infrastructure

(Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2020). In addition, the digital revolution requires rapid adaptation in governance and public services. However, great opportunities are also emerging, such as the potential for collaboration with the private sector and communities to create innovative solutions to urban problems. By adopting an inclusive and data-driven strategy, Depok City has a great opportunity to become a model sustainable city in Indonesia, which not only meets local needs but also contributes to the global development agenda.

The RPJPD 2025-2045 underlines the integration of economic, social and environmental development as the main pillars towards sustainability. The strategy is designed in four stages that include strengthening the foundations of governance, accelerating the creative economy, and managing environmental risks. These stages prioritize data-driven approaches and collaborative governance to create policies that are more adaptive to global change. The creative economy acceleration stage, for example, is aimed at improving regional competitiveness by utilizing digital technology and renewable energy. A study by Komninos (2013) shows that the implementation of technology in urban planning can increase community participation and the efficiency of public services. In this context, the concept of 'smart city' becomes relevant as an approach to improve the quality of urban life through the utilization of technology and data (Komninos, 2013). According to Giffinger et al. (2007), 'smart city' indicators include quality of life, economy, mobility, environment, and governance (Giffinger et al., 2007).

In addition, the RPJPD document identifies several strategic issues, such as socio-economic disparities and urbanization challenges that must be addressed through inclusive programs. This strategic planning also includes strengthening environmental risk mitigation, such as flood management and water resource conservation, which are prioritized to maintain long-term sustainability.

By adopting an inclusive and data-driven strategy, Depok City has a great opportunity to become a model sustainable city in Indonesia, which not only meets local needs but also contributes to the global development agenda.

Expectations for Depok City in the Next 20 Years

In the next 20 years, Depok City is expected to become a model city for sustainable development in Indonesia. The integration of technological innovation and environmental sustainability ensures that Depok remains competitive at the international level (Schwab, 2016; OECD, 2020). The development of information and communication technology has brought significant changes in various aspects of life, including in planning and decision-making processes at the city level (Giffinger et al., 2007). By integrating modern technology, environmental sustainability, and strengthening the creative economy, Depok has a great opportunity to strengthen its competitiveness at the regional and international levels. The utilization of the creative economy can improve regional competitiveness

and support the target of Depok Emas 2045 (Putri & Wijaya, 2022). The digital transformation that has been pioneered will be the main foundation in creating transparent and inclusive governance.

The development of green infrastructure and efficient public transportation is one of the main hopes to answer the challenges of urbanization. Green infrastructure development targeted in the RPJPD 2025-2045 contributes to climate change risk mitigation (European Commission, 2020). In addition, community empowerment through education, training and access to creative economy opportunities is expected to improve quality of life and reduce social inequality.

A development strategy that encompasses the creative economy, digital transformation, and environmental sustainability will ensure Depok City remains internationally competitive (Schwab, 2016; OECD, 2020). Through a collaborative and data-driven strategy, Depok City is expected to strengthen its identity as an "Advanced, Prosperous, and Sustainable City of Civilization," while making a real contribution to the Golden Indonesia 2045 agenda.

CONCLUSIONS

Depok City's journey towards the vision of "Depok Emas 2045" reflects a strategic move based on an in-depth evaluation of previous development achievements and future challenges. These achievements reflect the effectiveness of Depok City's past development strategies.

In looking forward, the city must also prepare for emerging challenges such as climate resilience, digital transformation, and equitable growth. Over the past two decades, Depok has achieved significant improvements in various development indicators, including an increase in the Human Development Index (HDI), poverty reduction, and economic growth. However, massive urbanization demands more adaptive and sustainable spatial and infrastructure management.

The RPJPD 2025-2045 provides a comprehensive strategic framework to address the complex challenges in Depok City's development. The strategies formulated include climate change mitigation through sustainable natural resource management, green infrastructure development, and strengthening environmentally friendly transportation systems. In addition, the document also emphasizes technological transformation as a key driver in improving the efficiency of governance and public services. Efforts to reduce social inequality are realized through community empowerment programs, improving access to education and health, and strengthening local economies based on inclusiveness. The community empowerment programs designed in the RPJPD 2025-2045 aim to reduce socio-economic disparities (Depok City Regional Development Planning Agency, 2025).

In the long term, the focus on digital innovation, environmental sustainability, and cross-sector collaboration are important elements to ensure the successful implementation of this strategy. Cross-sector collaboration between the government, the community, and the private sector is critical to realizing sustainable development (Adiputra & Tjahjono, 2021). Sustainable development is not only oriented towards achieving local targets but also supports national development goals such as the vision of a Golden Indonesia 2045.

By integrating economic, social, and environmental aspects harmoniously, Depok City has a great opportunity to become a model of inclusive and sustainable urban development. This success will reflect the shared commitment of all stakeholders in realizing a better future for future generations.

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Hopefully, this article can make a positive contribution to the development of Depok City and serve as an inspiration for other cities in Indonesia in achieving sustainable development.

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