## THE EFFECT OF THE NUMBER OF TOURISTS, EDUCATION LEVEL, ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND UNEMPLOYMENT ON POVERTY IN FIVE ADVANCED ECONOMIC REGIONS OF NTT PROVINCE

(Case Studies in West Manggarai Regency, Belu Regency, Kupang City, Ende Regency, and Sikka Regency)

## **ABSTRACK**

Poverty is a condition when individuals or groups do not have sufficient access to resources to fulfill the basic needs of life, such as food, shelter, education, and health. East Nusa Tenggara Province has the third highest poverty rate in Indonesia. This study aims to examine the characteristics of poverty and the factors that influence it in five regions, namely West Manggarai Regency, Belu Regency, Kupang City, Ende Regency, and Sikka Regency, over the period 2013-2023. The variables analyzed include the number of tourists, education level, economic growth, and unemployment rate. Based on the analysis, the poverty rate in the five regions shows a fluctuating pattern during the study period. The variable of the number of tourists does not have a significant effect on poverty reduction, while the variables of education level and economic growth are proven to have a significant negative effect, meaning that an increase in these two aspects can reduce the poverty rate. In contrast, the unemployment rate has a positive effect on poverty, which indicates that an increase in the number of unemployed people results in an increase in the number of poor people. Thus, although the number of tourists has potential, increasing access to education and inclusive economic growth are the main factors in efforts to alleviate poverty in the region.

Keywords: Poverty, number of tourists, Education Level, Economic Growth, and Unemployment.