

MADANI STORIES

FROM SERANG TO
BULUKUMBA



USAID-MADANI LEAD PARTNERS' ACTIVITIES
TO STRENGTHEN CIVIL SOCIETY IN
INDONESIA



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This book was compiled by the Atma Connect Team:

Silvia Yulianti	Main Editor
Raka Ibrahim and Dian Anggreini	Supporting editor
David Khoirul	Layout designer

Foreword

Hans Antlov, PhD

Chief of Party, USAID MADANI

A healthy democracy requires civil society organizations (CSOs) to be capable, credible, and accountable. An active and empowered civil society is imperative to protecting democracy and the abuse of public power. During the past 25 years, since *Reformasi* in 1998, Indonesian civil society organizations have both contributed to and benefitted from key democratic achievements.

Bringing the voice of citizens and civil society into service delivery can improve the quality of public spending by expanding the downward reach, assist in targeting at the community level, provide local knowledge, identify potential risks, monitor the use of funds, and put pressure on government to provide service responsibly. This will ensure that communities and beneficiaries, including those minority and marginalized groups who have very limited chance to voice their thoughts such as people with disabilities, women from poor communities or unmarried mothers, youth groups, religious minorities. The information and demand generated from feedback loops, such as needs assessments, multi-stakeholder forums, community score cards, and complaint mechanisms, are communicated up to local governments for action, with public pressures to ensure that they are acted upon by service providers. Requiring government officials and frontline agency managers to explain themselves in public provides a powerful edge to citizen engagement and has proven an effective trigger for improved performance.

According to the multilateral Busan Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011,¹ CSOs have a clear mandate to:

- Promote citizen participation in decision making
- Demand accountability, transparency, and access to information
- Ensure that public services are accessible to the poor, women, children, disabled persons, and religious and/or ethnic minorities and other marginalize groups.

In Indonesia, these principles are enshrined into Law no 25/2009 on Public Services and in Law 8/2013 on Civic Organizations. And this is what MADANI's local CSOs have done during the past three years.

MADANI Civil Society Support Initiative, implemented by FHI 360, was launched in 2019 to support Indonesia in consolidating the role of civil society in democracy and local

¹ "Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation", Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan, Republic of Korea, Dec. 2011, Article 22.

development. The aim of MADANI is to foster a more vibrant subnational civil society where local-level decision making is done in partnership with local governments that can better serve people and are welcoming to all citizens and more capable of combating the spread of disinformation that promotes intolerance. MADANI supports local CSOs to strengthen their capacity to promote government accountability and communal tolerance and improve their self-reliance and legitimacy through better mobilization of local resources and communities. In short, the aim is for local CSOs to improve their professionalism and start to see themselves as partners in development rather than simply donor beneficiaries.

MADANI works towards this vision by collaborating with local CSOs in targeted districts. Local partners (“Lead Partners”) have, during the past three years, received technical assistance through a pool of expert trainers and organized Learning Forums in their respective districts. As a result, MADANI partners have improved their organizational efficiency, results-based management, effective programming, strong networking, active outreach, and sustainable financing. MADANI’s technical assistance and mentoring help Lead Partners to become more accountable and professional organizations with strengthened systems, processes, and operational management. MADANI’s continuous mentoring has assisted them in implementing standard operating procedures on procurement, finances, and human resource management, positively impacting their programming, organizational leadership, and responsiveness.

The multi-stakeholder Learning Forums are the main way through which MADANI partners build partnerships between CSOs, the local government, media, and the private sector; support the capacity for citizens to exercise their democratic authority over public matters; and strengthen government accountability and communal tolerance in selected thematic areas of maternal and child health, inclusive schools, solid waste management, village fund transparency, and communal and youth tolerance.

The Learning Forums develop capacity *by doing*: the capacity to identify and solve local problems, to network and adapt to changes in the local system by jointly developing and implementing activities over time, to test solutions, and to campaign for social change. Learning Forums are meant to address local development issues by leveraging local assets and resources. Ultimately, the aim is that local CSOs have the capacity to identify challenges and iterate solutions and go on to identify more complex community challenges and solutions. The Learning Forum is but one way to achieve this. For this to happen, MADANI builds not only the capacity of individual CSOs, but also designs activities to improve government responsiveness to CSO advocacy and support the civil society ecosystem. Appreciation is due to the national and provincial resource organizations that have supported the building of capacity and to AtmaGo for compiling these stories.

MADANI has, during the past three years, worked with Atma Connect to support these local CSOs. Atma has trained the 32 Lead Partners and Learning Forum members on how to work with media and do strategic communication, on how to counter misinformation about COVID-

19, and how to share their concerns and needs through citizen journalism. Over this period, MADANI local partners and staff have contributed more than 2,000 posts to the atmago.com and covid19.atmago.com sites.

In late 2022, AtmaGo supported the 32 Lead Partners to write impact stories, two by each partner, highlighting the changes they have achieved during the past 2-3 years. The present booklet is a testimony and celebration of our local CSOs, and at the same time a proof of the MADANI concept that, if the capacity of CSOs is improved, government accountability and communal tolerance can improve. There are also quite a lot of tips and tricks on how our local CSO partners managed to build trust and improve public service delivery.

The changes described in these stories are around building trust with government, advocating for policy changes in the selected thematic topic areas and in the civil enabling environment that promotes local government to work more and better with civil society, and how the MADANI partners have improved their internal capacity, legitimacy, and sustainability.

Our local CSO partners have become leaders and local champions for positive change. The stories below tell how government, other CSOs, and communities have come along on that fascinating ride. Happy reading, everyone.

Meena Palaniappan

Chief Executive Officer, Atma Connect

Around Indonesia, in small villages, and in bustling cities across this archipelago, there are organizations and people who are making their communities better, step by step, tirelessly, passionately, and with great love.

They are often invisible, their achievements and their stories unwritten and unheralded.

For the last 7 years, Atma Connect and Yayasan Sakawarga have been proud to work shoulder to shoulder with these incredible changemakers so they can share their stories, get support, and improve their communities. Through our platform for neighbors helping neighbors, AtmaGo, we've reached 10 million people across Indonesia who are coming together in the spirit of Gotong Royong - mutual support - to create a better Indonesia.

At Atma we believe in the power of people to create a better world. Our platform gives people a way to share their voices, their solutions, their brilliance, and their ingenuity. We train women and vulnerable communities to share their voices through citizen journalism. And, through our platform, they connect with each other and take collective action to improve their communities.

We have been honored to work with the USAID MADANI initiative, FHI360, and the 32 Civil Society Organizations across Indonesia to amplify their impact.

Building the capacity and legitimacy of these Civil Society Organizations means helping them tell their stories. These stories are truly the exciting hero's journey of people and Civil Society organizations who have seen a problem, gathered together, researched and organized, met and educated, built a movement, and against all odds -- been victorious.

In Serang, Banten, Muhammadiyah women are advocating for greater oversight and governance of village funds, and in Bulukumba, South Sulawesi, young women are campaigning for the rights of underprivileged pregnant women to free health services.

This report celebrates these organizations, and the stories of the positive impact they've made to improve lives, improve access, and improve communities across Indonesia.

Stories move people. Stories inspire us and catalyze us to act. Stories can create emotional connection, generate the next big idea, and reshape our most vital systems.

These are people who are changing the world -- one connection, one event, and one story at a time.

They are the real heroes, and these are their stories.

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ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Stories of how USAID MADANI CSO Lead Partners have improved their
organizational capacity



The Long Journey of PD Aisyiyah's Serang Towards Swakelola

Pimpinan Daerah 'Aisyiyah (PDA) Serang

Established in 1990 in the District of Serang, Banten, *Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah* or PDA, the Serang branch of 'Aisyiyah, is an autonomous organization under the Muhammadiyah umbrella. It supports women to engage in piety and social development. In line with this spirit, PDA Serang decided to focus on developing its organizational capacity through joining the USAID MADANI's lead Partner program in 2020. Through MADANI, PDA Serang has been provided with a variety of forms of technical assistance to improve the organization internally, and has been assisted to determine thematic issues they could work to improve in the region. The program also initiated the formation of a multi-stakeholder Learning Forum consisting of various elements of society in Serang, called the Serang Madani Forum (SMS).



The issue of Village Fund Governance was chosen by PDA Serang due to the low participation of women in village development planning and budgeting. Activities began in 2021 by conducting a Village Fund Governance Perception Survey in two villages. The survey results showed a desire from the villagers to improve the quality of village financial management. These findings were then conveyed to the

Serang District Government, in this case the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda). PDA Serang also emphasized the need for similar surveys to be conducted in other village areas in the Serang District. Bappeda also welcomed this proposal, and proposed the implementation of the perception survey to be included in the 2022 Regional Budget Plan (RAPBD).



In order to build the sustainability of the organization, PDA Serang sought to find sources of funding that could support the implementation of its community service activities. Now that PDA Serang has initiated the village fund governance transparency survey, and Bappeda has given the green light to PDA Serang, what remains is now finding funding for this clear scope of work.

MADANI introduced PDA Serang to the Type III Self-Management mechanism, as mandated by Presidential Regulation (Perpres) No. 16/2018 on Public Procurement. *Swakelola* is the process for acquiring goods or services conducted by the Ministry/Institution/Regional Apparatus, other Ministries/Institutions/Regional Apparatus, community organizations, or community groups. Meanwhile, *Swakelola* Type III is a self-management mechanism

that is planned and supervised by the Ministry/Institution/Regional Apparatus in charge of the budget and implemented by civil society organizations (CSOs).

The Serang PDA took the long road to implementing this type of self-management, step by step. Starting from the trust of the Head of Bappeda of Serang District who proposed the inclusion of the village fund governance survey program in the 2022 budget plan as explained earlier, PDA Serang continued to move to improve its organization to meet the administrative and technical requirements that must be met by CSOs to participate in the *Swakelola* III scheme. Bappeda assigned a special team to assess PDA Serang's eligibility, and PDA Serang gradually went through the eligibility assessment process.

The hard work of both parties paid off. In May 2022, a contract commitment was finally signed between Bappeda and PDA Serang. *"PDA Serang has a good track record and has worked with several international NGOs, including The Asia Foundation's SRH program, USAID SAFE's Healthy Poultry program, the Global Fund's TB program and currently with USAID MADANI on the issue of transparency in village fund governance,"* recommended Mr. Furqon, R&D of Bappeda Serang, to the Head of Bappeda Serang. A well-deserved achievement, stemming from the trust that PDA Serang has slowly developed in the local government of Serang District, in this case Bappeda. It is all good practice for the communication work and intensive involvement of Bappeda in discussions, studies, and socialization of Type III *Swakelola*, conducted by PDA Serang.



From this success story of PDA Serang, there are several lessons that can be observed. It can be said to be the success tips of PDA Serang, which can be a lesson for other CSOs who want to participate in the Type III Swakelola scheme. First, focus on activities that have already been done by the CSO itself and have seen results, or have the potential to be replicated using the budget from the Type III Self-Management scheme

Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah (PDA) Serang
pdakabserang@gmail.com

(not necessarily new activities). Second, understand the local government's perspective on Type III Swakelola, that agencies implementing *swakelola* schemes may very well be seen as pioneers because there are still few government agencies and CSOs doing so. Thirdly, raising awareness in the organization itself, that Type III Swakelola is one of the ways to "move up in class", as well as proving capacity building, legitimacy and sustainability both internally and externally.

Indeed, PDA Serang is learning to grow and develop itself so that it can always assist the government and the community in developing its region. PDA is transforming into a strong CSO that continues to renew its performance to adapt to the times. The steps may not yet be big but from these small steps everything will start.



Yayasan Difabel Mandiri Indonesia Tangerang City, "From Zero to Hero"

Yayasan Difabel Mandiri Indonesia (YDMI) Tangerang City

"What can a person with a disability do?", "A person with a disability can do this and that, while mobilizing himself is difficult without the help of others", "Why do people with disabilities go to high school, in the end they will just stay at home, where will agencies or companies employ them, which will only make a hassle!"

These are some of the negative stigmas against people with disabilities that exist in our society in general. It's a very narrow view of people with disabilities, as if they don't have a good future, although there are many abilities offered by persons with disabilities which may not be possessed by ordinary people. This is where public awareness of the ignorance and lack of understanding towards people with disabilities is needed.

Starting from a Facebook community called the "Indonesian Community of Persons with Disability" (Komunitas

Penyandang Disabilitas Indonesia or KPDI) in 2011, Yayasan Difabel Mandiri Indonesia (YDMI or the Foundation for Independent Persons with Disability) was established two years after KPDI started. This community was formed by members who are concerned about disability, and most member are disabled. YDMI is also a place for members to exchange ideas and experiences, about the existence of difables in the general public with all its problems, and the lack of job vacancies for difables and the lack of skills. The name "Difabel Mandiri Indonesia" itself is taken from our desire to be independent, share, and work in independence. YDMI

also expects to be able to manage the guidance and assistance distributed to the disabled, in a more organized manner. In its journey, YDMI has played an active role in various disability issues, according to its motto, "Serving all people with disabilities, regardless of ethnicity, race and religion". But all of that does not necessarily run smoothly without obstacles, and YDMI's biggest obstacle is in the field of human resources (HR).



In its journey as an organization, YDMI realizes the need for improvement and improvement in its organizational body. At the end of 2020, YDMI partnered with the USAID MADANI program, focusing on the issue of inclusive education, to ensure that groups with disabilities have proper and equal access to primary and secondary education. Managing the program with minimal human resources at YDMI is the biggest challenge in implementing the MADANI program. In the first year, when MADANI emphasized the internal improvement of the organization of its main partners, everything related to the administration of the institution seemed to be a new and confusing thing. At that time, YDMI did not have Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which should be a reference in organizational administration. The YDMI

team participated in various Technical Assistance (TA) trainings, and learned from the field activities of the MADANI program in order to increase the capacity of the institution so that, over time, the YDMI team felt more mature in managing the institution and in carrying out activities. YDMI has produced five documents, namely the Strategic Plan (RENSTRA) and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan, Employment SOP, Financial SOP and Goods and Services Procurement SOP.

As YDMI is growing, some significant capacity building has occurred. In the field of finance, manual recording on paper is no longer done, replaced by the use of an online spreadsheet application. YDMI staff have also been able to advocate (lobbying and compiling advocacy materials) agencies related to inclusive education issues. The confidence of the staff has generally increased—they now dare to speak both in public and in front of government agencies to convey their advocacy. In addition, staff have also been able to prepare letters and terms of reference with reference to the work plan, and are also able to organize events for the wider community. And most proudly, the staff have been able to become facilitators and resource persons in activities, although they are still accompanied by the MADANI Field Coordinator. YDMI is also developing its writing skills to communicate its work through digital and social media platforms such as AtmaGo, Instagram, and Facebook.

Meanwhile, in the field of partner development and advocacy, good relations and cooperation have also been

established with various local government agencies, including Bappeda, DPRD, DISDIK, DINSOS and Kesbangpol. They now involve YDMI in various government meeting agendas such as the and Development Planning Forums (Musrenbang), discussion of the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD), and discussion of the Regional Budget and Expenditure Plan (RAPBD). YDMI has also successfully encouraged local governments to provide sign language interpretation services for activities involving the community.



"With this activity (discussion), we can exchange ideas. From PPID, we can provide what information is needed, then we get feedback related to services to disabilities and information

needs from disabilities," said Ibu Fitri from the Tangerang City Information Documentation and Management Officer (PPID), during a joint discussion with YDMI and the Forum Masyarakat Inklusi (FORMASI), a multi-stakeholder forum initiated by YDMI within the framework of the USAID MADANI Program, in mid-September 2022.

For two years, YDMI has been supported by MADANI on the issue of inclusive education, resulting in the issuance of the Tangerang Mayor's Regulation No.73 of 2021, concerning the Procedure for Providing Inclusive Education Operational Costs at the Technical Implementation

Unit of Public Elementary Schools and the Technical Implementation Unit of Public Junior High Schools. Now there are 54 elementary schools and 13 junior high schools spread across 13 sub-districts in Tangerang City, which have the status of inclusive schools. This means that children with disabilities will no longer have difficulties in finding and accessing inclusive schools, which are closest to where they live. YDMI managed to mobilize children with disabilities as direct beneficiaries, no less than 388 children with disabilities from 54 inclusive primary schools, and 91 children with disabilities from 12 inclusive junior high schools, to attend and 'speak out' about the implementation of inclusive schools.



No less encouraging, at the end of July 2022, the YDMI team was specially invited by the Tangerang Court Class 1a Special, to attend the "Disability Services Assistance Meeting". YDMI was asked for suggestions and input for the development and improvement of facilities, infrastructure, and services at the Tangerang Court Building, to make it easier for people with disabilities who are doing activities in that place. Following that, YDMI was invited by the General Election Commission (KPU) of Tangerang City as a resource person in the "Socialization of Simultaneous General

Training in 2024 to Persons with Disabilities" event.

These achievements are certainly a source of pride for YDMI, because YDMI is increasingly known and recognized for its existence and work in defending the interests of disability groups in Tangerang City. Three years ago, YDMI may have been zero, but now YDMI is a hero,

fighting for the fate of our friends with disabilities. In the end, all the ups and downs, challenges, and achievements, that YDMI has gone through so far, should be a whip of encouragement, to continue to contribute, work, and hold strong commitments, so that YDMI is always there and fights for the independence of friends with disabilities, towards an inclusive society.

Yayasan Difabel Mandiri Indonesia (YDMI)

info@ydmid.or.id

ydmid@intelove.com



Improvement and Capacity Building of Bumi Sawerigading Foundation in Palopo

Yayasan Bumi Sawerigading (YBS) Palopo

The effectiveness of an institution cannot be separated from the knowledge and experience of human resources (HR). The main key in maintaining the sustainability of the institution depends on how staff are able to realize the knowledge they have gained.

achievement of the institution, capacity measurement has been carried out using the Organizational Performance Index. The purpose of this measurement is to identify the successes that have been obtained both individually and with a major effect, especially in achieving the



In a departure from the learning that was obtained after the assistance and mentoring, currently the development of human resources in individuals is starting to increase, and has become clearly visible. To find out more about the level of



vision and mission of the institution.

Additional knowledge, through technical assistance, was also obtained from several institutions outside YBS, including the Bani Abdurrahman Wahid Foundation (YBAW).

YBAW provides training related to increasing the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) in managing diversity and social inclusion. In addition, the Institute for Public Policy Studies (PSP-LSKP) as a *Provincial Support Partner* (PSP) shared knowledge about learning patterns and methods in accessing government funds as mandated by Presidential Regulation Number 16 of 2018 through the Type III Self-Management mechanism. YAPPIKA also provides assistance to YBS in conducting social accountability. The Community Score Card (CSC) was introduced to evaluate the quality of public services, both by service providers and service recipients in USAID MADANI pilot sites. CSC is used to measure the level of satisfaction of the community and government. Through the application of CSC, YBS Palopo is now able to accommodate and facilitate the wishes of both parties with the output of policy recommendations.

In addition, YBS is also trained to write, as well as sharpen their digital literacy, through use of the AtmaGo platform. In this MADANI Program, AtmaGo is used as a platform to expand every activity of the main partners in implementing thematic issues and work outside other programs institutionally. Furthermore, the presence of the AtmaGo Community Room (RKA) provides a forum for communities to profile their organizations, including YBS Palopo. The purpose of RKA itself is inseparable from how an institution's performance steps in socializing and disseminating program activities.

The social media optimization training, and impact story writing training, from AtmaGo also provided a rapid increase in the capacity for institutional progress, especially in managing internal social media accounts and impact stories to be further outlined in the form of training assignments to create impact stories.



The entire series of capacity building activities, both face-to-face and online, has been able to increase the institutional capacity of YBS as a civil society organization. This can also be seen from the fulfillment of the requirements in applying for Type III Self-Management. In 2022 YBS has been trusted by the Palopo City Government to socialize TongKAT (Integrated Magic Tong and Box), which is a method for organic waste management.

"YBS as an institution has been able to become a liaison between stakeholders in Palopo City, so that in the future it is hoped that development in this city can be carried out in an integrated manner by taking into account various aspects", Vice Rector IV Andi Djemma University, Dr. Abdul Rahman Nur, SH, MH.

YBS continuously improves itself so that ,within its capacity, it is able to carry out its role to be active in Palopo City and in

South Sulawesi Province. It is expected that, as the organization's capabilities increase, other roles will be able to be

carried out by YBS to support development in the eastern part of Indonesia.

Bumi Sawerigading Foundation

ybs.palopo@gmail.com

<https://ybsshop.wordpress.com/2018/03/31/11/>



Strengthening Civil Society Organizations for Local Democracy in Surakarta

KOMPIP, Surakarta

If the organizational and technical capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) at the local level is improved and their sustainability strengthened, then civil society in Indonesia can effectively strengthen government accountability and promote tolerance.

At the present, there are 230 CSOs in the city of Surakarta in Central Java, according to data from the National and Political Unity Agency (Kesbangpol). However, only 85 CSOs are registered, and only 75% of them are legal entities, while the rest are CSOs that only have a Registered Certificate (SKT) from the Ministry of Home Affairs (Kemendagri). The CSO data collection was carried out by the Surakarta City Government as an implementation of the Surakarta Mayor Regulation (*Perwali*)

Number 49 of 2019 which mandates the Awareness, Empowerment, and Development of Youth.

The role of CSOs is needed in strengthening democracy in the regions, especially in advocacy, empowerment and social control. The work of CSOs is one of the real practices in encouraging community participation to be involved in public policy making. This is done by conveying the aspirations of the community to elements that can make direct decisions. This role is certainly

expected to help the democratic process. Civil society actively moves to *empower* itself (*empowerment*) and together become supervisors/controllers of the democratic process so as not to deviate from the path mandated by laws and regulations.

Bakesbangpol's mandate in empowering CSOs overlaps with the USAID MADANI Program, namely on strengthening the capacity of CSOs in the regions. There are three aspects that need to be encouraged, namely aspects of increasing CSO capacity, increasing legitimacy (relevance to local government and relevance to stronger communities) and CSO sustainability for change and an enabling policy environment (one of which is local regulation and self-management, as well as resource mobilization or ResMob).



As a partner of the USAID MADANI Program in Surakarta City, KOMPIP chose a strategy to bring together various stakeholders in Surakarta City, through the establishment of a *Learning Community*. KOMPIP, together with the Regional Planning and Development Agency (Bappeda) and Kesbangpol Kota Surakarta, established a multi-stakeholder forum called *Komunitas Belajar Madani*

Solo, abbreviated as KOMBES. Individuals from various backgrounds join KOMBES, united in a belief that social change can happen more progressively when there is



a synergy of knowledge by *stakeholders*.

KOMPIP was then engaged by Kesbangpol to strengthen the capacity of 40 CSOs in Surakarta City, which also served as a moment to introduce the CSO data collection application called *Pemutakhiran Data Organisasi Masyarakat* (Mapan OM or Social Organizational Data Update) in 2020. KOMPIP was asked to introduce the Organizational Performance Index (OPI) to the Regional Poverty Reduction Coordination Team (TKPKD) at the sub-district level in Surakarta, and also to Bakesbangpol. OPI was introduced because the tool can measure changes in the performance of mass organizations and their relationship with capacity building and their impact on the community. On the occasion, the Secretary of the Surakarta City Kesbangpol Agency, Mr. Hari Sulistiono S.H, M.Hum, said that this activity is one of the programs and mandates of Bakesbangpol in strengthening CSOs in Surakarta City to increase their independence.

Assessment of organizational performance using OPI facilitates the formulation of action plans for organizational development. Strengthening organizational management is expected to strengthen relationships with the government and assisted communities so that local governments will find it easy to work with CSOs. This can certainly create a conducive environment for CSO development. CSOs will also be able to diversify their financial resources, develop fundraising strategies through Type III self-management mechanisms, cooperation with the private sector, and philanthropy. Swakelola Type III is mandated by Presidential Regulation No. 16/2018 on Government Procurement of Goods/Services. Swakelola is a way of obtaining goods/services that are carried out by government agencies, community organizations, or community groups. Meanwhile, Swakelola Type III is a mechanism that is planned and supervised by the government agency in charge of the budget and implemented by CSOs implementing Swakelola.

Through the socialization activities to CSOs, with the theme "Improving the Independence of Community Organizations as Partners of the Surakarta City Government", the Head of Bakesbangpol Mr. Indradi AP, S.H, MH conveyed the need for a policy brief from USAID - MADANI on the proposed empowerment of CSOs, one of which is related to the need for OPI, because it will be used as one of the justifications for strengthening CSOs with OPI measurement.

The training to strengthen 40 CSOs in Surakarta produced encouraging results. The participants have applied the materials obtained in the training in their respective organizations. Participants have also been able to develop Articles of Association and Bylaws, Strategic Plan (Renstra), Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Employment, SOP for Finance, and SOP for procurement of goods and services.

The next outcome of KOMBES and KOMPIP's work was the establishment of the "Civil Society Learning Center" (PPOMS) in early November 2022. PPOMS was established as a learning space managed by the KOMBES Learning Hub to strengthen the sustainability of the CSO movement and its presence in Surakarta City. The consolidation of ideas, expertise, and resources is expected to build self-reliance, and reduce dependence on assistance from local government. This initiative will improve the equality of CSOs with the local government. This goal of this initiative is to enlighten the local government on the the existence and role of CSOs as critical partners and equal strategic partners, who will carry out control functions regularly to improve the quality of development in the region.

PPOMS is a forum for deepening knowledge, attitudes and practices that support the strengthening of civil society. As a deepening platform, this space is open to activists and civil society organizations as bearers and officers of civil society ideas. The opportunity is also open to professionals, academics, and



ordinary people with unusual knowledge and skills.

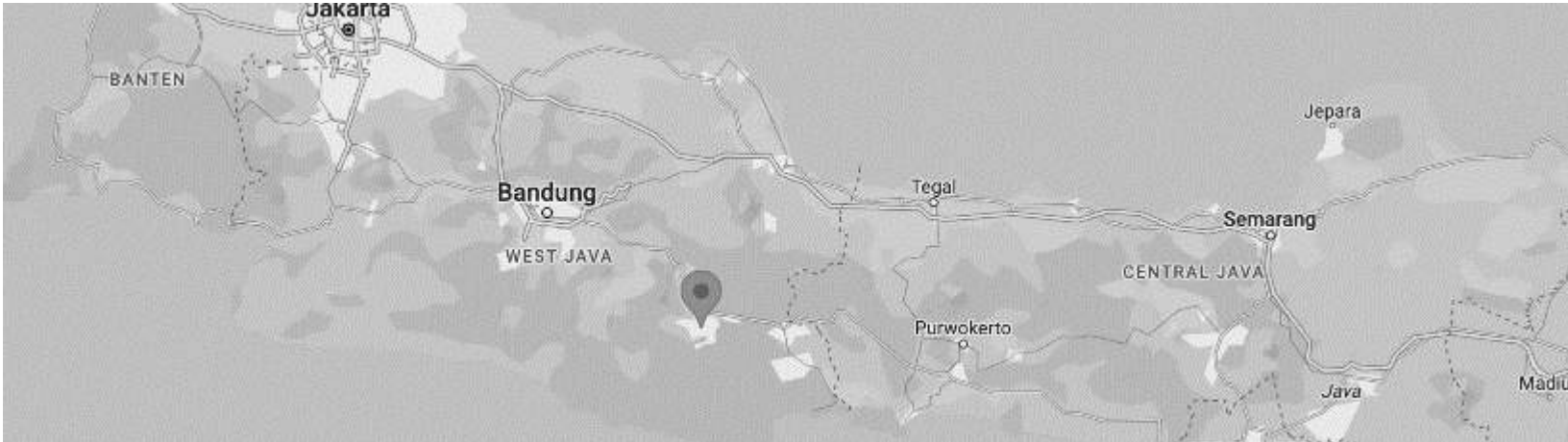
PPOMS will oversee CSOs in Surakarta City, through four main steps, namely (1) consolidation of CSOs, practitioners, and experts; (2) curriculum development

KOMPIP Surakarta

eko_2812@yahoo.co.id

spearheaded by KOMPIP and KOMBES; (3) a series of lectures/mentoring for CSOs, media, academics, students, and marginalized groups; (4) and monitoring and documentation.

Through PPOMS, which acts as an educational academy for civil society organizations, KOMPI and KOMBES hope to create a harmonious and equal relationship between the local government of Surakarta City, and elements of civil society, so as to achieve the common goal of fulfilling the vision and mission of Surakarta City as a modern, resilient, agile, creative and prosperous cultural city.



The Movement of Pergerakan Relawan Kemanusiaan Indonesia, From "Rogue Organization" to Elegant Opposition in Tasikmalaya

Pergerakan Relawan Kemanusiaan Indonesia (PRK-I) Tasikmalaya

Pergerakan Relawan Kemanusiaan Indonesia (PRK-I or the “Indonesian Movement for Humanitarian Volunteers”) is one of the civil society organizations engaged in humanitarian social issues in the district of Tasikmalaya, West Java. Since its establishment 10 years ago, PRK-I has become a forum for the community and also actively oversees the Tasikmalaya government.

However, these criticisms and movements have often reached a dead end. PRK-I is very active and outspoken in expressing its opinions to the Tasikmalaya local government, especially when government policies are deemed not in line with the interests of the community. This habit has made the relationship between PRK-I and

the Tasikmalaya local government run "hot and cold".

The local government sees CSOs such as PRK-I as those who only provide baseless criticism, and considers the input directed to the local government to be aimed at bringing them down.. Therefore, for 10 years, PRK-I has never received any support or cooperation from the Tasikmalaya government.

The turning point began in 2020, when PRK-I was selected as a partner of the USAID-facilitated MADANI program. Throughout the course of the program, PRK-I was given various kinds of training to increase its capacity both organizationally and in terms of management competence. PRK-I's

involvement in the MADANI program, which in fact was the first support received by PRK-I, became one of the important points in the organization's journey.

Through the MADANI program, PRK-I was introduced to various tools that can support organizational capacity building efforts. One of them is the *Organizational Performance Index (OPI)*. OPI is an assessment and measurement method used to see the state of CSOs in more detail. Through the OPI assessment, organizations can see the conditions and deficiencies that exist in their organizations and how to improve them.

The OPI is the basis for completing important documents such as the Strategic Plan, Work Plan and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Based on the assessment contained in the OPI, PRK-I honed its organizational skills through various kinds of technical assistance provided by consultants who are experts in their fields: such as strengthening organizational management, managing organizational resources, writing techniques and social media management, and many others.

Various kinds of organizational capacity building and approaches conducted through MADANI have successfully changed the face of PRK-I. On an agreed thematic issue, for example, PRK-I used advocacy methods in the form of a complaint survey to improve the quality of services at health centers in the Tasikmalaya region. With the right push, this piloting program resulted in a Service Quality Improvement Pledge and Policy Paper submitted to the local

government— a remarkable and unexpected outcome.



PRK-I's more strategic work, and more tangible results, made PRK-I more respected. PRK-I began to be involved in many local government activities both as a resource person and as a local government partner. One of the most deft in embracing PRK-I was the National Unity and Political Agency or Kesbangpol of Tasikmalaya. Impressed by the change in professionalism shown by PRK-I, at the end of 2021 the Kesbangpol Agency asked PRK-I to introduce the OPI method to more than 50 organizations throughout Tasikmalaya.

"Admittedly, we sometimes have difficulties when it comes to assessing which CSOs are worthy of government support, and we think the OPI can be used as a basis for analyzing the condition of CSOs in Tasikmalaya ", said the Head of Kesbangpol Tasikmalaya, Asep Gunadi. *"Therefore, we asked PRK-I to introduce OPI to more CSOs in Tasikmalaya. Hopefully, this tool can provide a better picture for us in providing CSO capacity building more precisely and according to needs".*

In line with Kesbangpol, appreciation was also expressed by the Head of the Regional Development Planning, Research and Development Agency

(Bappelitbangda) of Tasikmalaya, Ahmad Muksin, S.H., M.M. "We are proud and appreciate the changes that have occurred in PRK-I", he said. "As a local government, of course we really need input and suggestions from the community represented by CSOs. PRK-I not only provides input and criticism based on clear data and facts for Tasikmalaya, but also becomes a government partner in helping carry out government work".

PRK-I Chairman, Luthfi Hizba Rusydia also stated that the face of PRK-I today has changed - no longer as a CSO that just criticizes, just shouts, but a CSO that is able to join hands with the government without losing its identity as a counterweight to the government.

"Before the MADANI program we were like an irresponsible organization", he

admitted. "We were very active and criticized government policies without knowing advocacy strategies. Through the MADANI Program, we were taught many things such as advocacy strategies, building relationships with the local government and other CSOs, and even trainings that are needed to improve organizational capacity."

The impact of the capacity building has been felt by the organization. "Today PRK-I is more prepared to be an accountable organization. We are ready to help the government work, without losing our identity in criticizing the government. But now we are able to criticize the government in a more "elegant" way—with clear data and facts, and also through the knowledge gained from the research and analysis done in the MADANI program," he concluded.

PRK-I Tasikmalaya District

prkindonesia@gmail.com

www.prk-indonesia.com



Dissemination of Inclusive Village Program in Luwu Utara

Wahana Lingkungan Lestari Celebes Area (Wallacea), Luwu Utara

The Inclusive Village is one of the ideal village models currently promoted by the central government, in this case the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Villages and Transmigration (Kemendesa). This Inclusive Village will be echoed and implemented in every village in Indonesia, including Luwu Utara in the northern part of South Sulawesi.



To support this program, the Wallacea Association, through the USAID MADANI Program, seeks to disseminate the Inclusive Village Program. The Wallacea

Organization organized a training activity on inclusive village development in Luwu Utara. The purpose of the training was to increase the capacity of stakeholders in inclusive villages and to disseminate the concept of the rights of the seven vulnerable groups enshrined in inclusive villages, including the poor, the disabled, children, women, the elderly, and indigenous peoples.

Participants involved in this training were the Regional Government of Luwu Utara, including the Regional Development Planning, Research and Development Agency (Bappelitbangda), the Village Community Empowerment Office, the National Unity and Political Agency (Bakesbangpol), and the piloting Village Government, namely the Head of Pincara Village, the Head of Ketulungan Village, and the Vulnerable Group Care Forum (FPCR), namely Pincara Village and Ketulungan Village. Representatives from the Indonesian Association of Persons with Disabilities and Simpul Belajar

Lamaranginang were also present. The diversity of participants in this training is very representative of the spirit of inclusivity where all stakeholders, both majority and minority, are involved.

In the same activity, there was also a representative from the South Sulawesi Indigenous Territory Registration Agency (BRWA) who spoke about the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples. BRWA South Sulawesi emphasized the importance of involving indigenous peoples in village planning because the state guarantees the rights of indigenous peoples and is currently encouraging efforts to recognize or restore the rights of indigenous peoples, including those related to customary territories and culture.

Sharing experiences and learning together between villages in starting an inclusive village is an effective dissemination and replication model because no one is patronizing, and feels more than the others. This method is also taken by Wallacea when carrying out dissemination efforts of the Inclusive Village Program outside the pilot village area.

Previously, this program had been implemented in two assisted villages, namely Pincara Village in Baebunta Sub-district, and Ketulungan Village in Sukamaju Sub-district, Luwu Utara. Banyu Urip Village in Bone-Bone Sub-district expressed its interest in the Inclusive Village Program. This village feels the importance of maintaining tolerance and harmony between ethnicities and religions in its area as a practice towards an inclusive village.

In one of the socialization opportunities, the Pincara Village team delivered testimonials on what had been done, and the changes that have occurred in the village, especially the involvement of vulnerable groups in village meetings as an effort towards an inclusive village.



The Village Head of Banyu Urip, Rahman, explained the efforts to strengthen tolerance in the life of his community. *"We do security during Lebaran from the Church Youth. For Christmas, the security is done by Muslim youth,"* he said, explaining the typology of his multi-ethnic and religious community. This condition has encouraged Banyu Urip Village to further strengthen tolerance in its area, through the Inclusive Village Program.

Arman, Bone-Bone Sub-District Head, fully supports this activity. *"We fully support this program. Hopefully this socialization will spread to other villages to achieve the target of inclusive villages in 2030,"* said Arman, who appreciated the involvement of the above-mentioned vulnerable in the village development planning deliberation.

Meanwhile, Akmal Hidayat, Professional Facilitator of the Village Community Development and Empowerment Program (TPP P3MD), said that the sensitivity of the village head is needed in realizing the inclusive village development program. The use of village funds is divided into five areas, namely; data collection, tourism village development, stunting prevention, strengthening food, and animal security, and inclusive village development. "The

sensitivity of the village head is needed in realizing this," he said.

The involvement of various stakeholders, along with the interest in replicating the Inclusive Village Program, shows the seriousness of Luwu Utara in fighting for the issue of inclusiveness in its region. And Wallacea's efforts to support this government program should be applauded. Greetings, and inclusion!

Wallacea – Luwu Utara

basriandang99@gmail.com

wallaceapl@gmail.com

www.wallacea.or.id

MADANI LEARNING FORUM

Stories of the work of CSO groups across the USAID MADANI Program area, where the CSO Learning Forums were initiated by MADANI's Lead Partners



KADER PINTAR, Champion Women's Participation and Involvement in Village Development in Sumedang District

Pimpinan Daerah 'Aisyiyah (PDA) Sumedang

Women's movement, which was once only synonymous with the home, has now expanded. No longer only taking care of household affairs, many women have become career women, entrepreneurs, and even government officials. Coupled with the presidential regulation on gender mainstreaming, women have become an important element in development.

One example is in the village, where there is a stipulation that village planning and development meetings (*Musrenbang*) must be attended by at least 30% women. The *Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah* or PDA (Aisyiyah Regional Branch) of the district of Sumedang, West Java, an autonomous women's organization under Muhammadiyah, understands this on one hand. But on the other hand, PDA Sumedang also realizes that quantitative

attendance is not enough. Women must be present and able to voice their aspirations.

There is still much homework to be done to achieve this, so the Sumedang PDA feels the need to do something. By becoming a partner of the USAID MADANI Program in Sumedang District, PDA is trying to carry out its work. In the MADANI Program, Sumedang PDA was equipped with the knowledge to improve its organization first, and then they were encouraged to determine the focus of issues in the region to be addressed. The thematic issue chosen by PDA Sumedang is women's participation in planning and implementing village activities.

A multi-stakeholder forum was formed to strengthen the work of the Sumedang PDA. The forum was named INSUN Madani, where *insun* which in Sundanese

means *insan/self/one's self*, is taken from the Sumedang motto "*insun medal insun madangan*", which means "I was born to give light". Together with INSUN Madani, PDNA Sumedang identified two assisted villages for women's participation issues, namely Margaluyu Village and Kadakajaya Village in Tanjungsari District.



In both villages, PDA Sumedang and INSUN Madani formed Women's Initiative, Resilient, Responsive Cadres (Kader PINTAR). PINTAR cadres are women who know and want to understand the issue of village budget transparency in their respective villages. The PINTAR cadres conducted interviews related to women's participation in development planning in their respective villages. They found several internal and external factors that inhibit women's participation in the village development planning process.

Internal factors include feelings of lack of confidence, inferiority, and indifference to development issues in the village. Lack of confidence is the dominant factor for women to not actively participate in village development. This factor is influenced by low levels of education, economic conditions, and social status in the community. This will cause antipathy in women and a feeling of "not

participating is okay" or "participating has no effect".

External factors include deliberations that are sometimes held at night, which are not in accordance with local wisdom, and religious stipulations that it is not good for women to go out at night, as well as family constraints, namely husbands who prohibit their wives from being active, and constraints in taking care of children and households. The system in the community that is still thick with patriarchal culture is also an obstacle for women to be active.



Although the village government has provided space for women's participation in accordance with existing regulations, individual participation in activities is still lacking. As one PINTAR cadre explained, women's representatives are usually only from the Family Empowerment and Welfare (PKK) group, and if there are representatives from other forums such as the Women Farmers Group (KWT), they are less active in the forum. In fact, some women's representatives only take care of meeting refreshments and feel that they have contributed to the forum.

Seeing this situation, the PINTAR Cadres came up with an innovation. As a means for villagers to express their aspirations regarding village development programs, the PINTAR Cadre held a community aspiration pick-up activity abbreviated as

“Japri Warga”. Japri Warga is carried out by visiting communities that have been previously mapped through social analysis. These are groups of people whose aspirations are less accessible but whose interests need to be accommodated in village development programs, including women, young people, the poor, the disabled and others.

The Japri Warga activity is an innovation in conveying residents' aspirations to the village government so that it can reach a wider range of residents. As not all people are active in giving their opinions to the village government, especially people from marginalized groups, innovation is therefore needed to make it easier for the village to capture the aspirations of local residents.

Residents' aspirations from the results of Japri Warga were conveyed in the village Musrenbang for the 2023 budget year. Several proposals from Japri Warga were accommodated and included in the Village Government Work Plan. It is hoped that

the Japri Warga will produce a more inclusive village development program, accommodating the needs of villagers from various community groups.

Japri Warga is expected to be adopted and applied by the village government as one of the methods to gather the aspirations of citizens that are more inclusive and reach a wider range of citizens, so that village development programs will be more in line with the local needs of the village community. Village development is also expected to be more optimal and run well when supported by the fulfillment of the needs of villagers in accordance with the local wisdom of the village community.

There is still a long way to go towards active participation and participation of women in village development, but the PINTAR Cadres, accompanied by PDA Sumedang and the INSUN Madani Forum, will not give up, because *insun medal insun madangan*, “I was born to give light”.

Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah Sumedang
pdaisyiyahsumedang@gmail.com



Resource Mobilization of Forum Sehat Gemilang and Forum Peduli Kesehatan Ibu dan Anak in Tangerang District

Forum Peduli Kesehatan Ibu dan Anak (FOPKIA), Tangerang District

Forum Sehat Gemilang is a collection of stakeholders in the field of maternal and child health (MCH) issues in the District of Tangerang, Banten Province. The members of the forum, who are mostly civil society organizations (CSOs) focusing on MCH issues, have actively participated in alleviating MCH problems in Tangerang. The forum was initiated by *Forum Peduli Kesehatan Ibu dan Anak* (FOPKIA) in the Tangerang, through USAID MADANI Program where FOPKIA is one of the partner organizations.

FOPKIA and *Forum Sehat Gemilang* then piloted the MCH program in Teluknaga sub-district. There they assisted two villages to form working group cadres for maternal, newborn and child health, FOPKIA guided the two villages in handling emergencies of pregnant women. The first thing that needs to be

done, if a high-risk pregnant woman is found, is to communicate with the village midwife or the local Puskesmas for intensive monitoring to minimize the occurrence of unwanted things during the pregnancy as it progresses. Secondly, in relation to high-risk pregnant women who do not have health insurance, the pregnant women are assisted to make a Certificate of Incapacity from the village government, as a condition for obtaining a Childbirth Insurance (Jampersal) or Regional Health Insurance (Jamkesda), so that the cost of delivery is borne by the Tangerang District Government. For this reason, FOPKIA also asks villagers to put aside their reluctance to communicate directly with the village government, or at

least with FOPKIA administrators if they experience pregnancy emergencies.



In addition, FOPKIA and Forum Sehat Gemilang conducted a survey of emergency services for pregnant women at Puskesmas Teluknaga. The survey was conducted using the Community Score Card (CSC) method, where the assessment of health services was carried out not only by residents as users of the Puskesmas, but also by the Teluknaga Puskesmas itself. The CSC results from both parties then sought agreement on what aspects of the service needed to be improved.

The Chairperson of FOPKIA, Atif, emphasized that currently the Gemilang Healthy Forum has made many positive contributions in advocating for the reduction of maternal mortality rate/infant mortality rate (MMR/AKB) in Tangerang District, by cooperating with the Tangerang District Health Office (Dinkes) and the Tangerang District Women and Children Protection and Empowerment Office (DP3A) as strategic partners. The Head of the Family Health Division of the Health Office, Dr. Indri, appreciated FOPKIA and Forum Sehat Gemilang for doing real work in supporting efforts to

accelerate the reduction of MMR/ IMR in Tangerang District.



The results of Forum Sehat Gemilang's collaborative work with various parties have begun to yield results. The Head of DP3A Tangerang District, Muwarti, expressed her desire to continue the collaboration with Forum Sehat Gemilang for the following year. She informed that her office is currently launching the Gerakan Sayang Ibu program, which aims to reduce MMR/ IMR in Tangerang. For this year, the implementation of the program is targeted at five sub-districts and cooperation with FOPKIA has already been established. The Health Office also said that for the revised Regional Budget (APBD) in 2022, there is an allocation of grant funds that can be used by FOPKIA and Forum Sehat Gemilang to support activities on MCH issues. Furthermore, Forum Sehat Gemilang can also be

involved in supporting stunting eradication efforts.

Not stopping there, Forum Sehat Gemilang mobilizes resources through collaboration with the private sector. Currently, Selaras Hospital has collaborated with FSG to run a free ultrasound program for pregnant women who are BPJS members. Although there is no direct collaboration with the local government, in this case the Health Office, they will consider supporting similar schemes to be implemented through Corporate Social Responsibility programs of other companies.

FOPKIA and Forum Sehat Gemilang understand the importance of resource mobilization, in this case funding sources and collaboration with stakeholders, to ensure the sustainability of their work in helping the Tangerang District government address maternal and child health issues. Therefore, efforts to approach various parties, both local government and the private sector, continue to be made, in order to realize a common determination for better maternal and child health conditions in Tangerang District.

FOPKIA - Tangerang

atifmuhamad91@gmail.com

kabtangfopkia@gmail.com



Strengthening Civil Society Forums to Enhance the Role of Civil Society Organizations in Boyolali District

Lembaga Kajian untuk Transformasi Sosial (LKTS) Boyolali

In the District of Boyolali (Central Java), CSO participation in the regional development process has decreased over the last 10 years. If anything, CSOs only participate if the focus relates to the area in which each organization works. CSOs do not have a common struggle issue that catalyze social transformation. This is also caused by the weak ability of organizations to develop organizational sustainability. Both due to ineffective regeneration and lack of funding support, CSOs have not been able to develop independent sources of funding in a sustainable manner. Therefore, it is deemed necessary to strengthen the capacity of CSOs, especially in the Boyolali area.

One of the efforts to encourage the role of CSOs in Boyolali was taken by the Lembaga Kajian untuk Transformasi Sosial (Institute for Social Transformation or LKTS). As a partner of USAID MADANI Program in Boyolali, LKTS started its

efforts by conducting a focus group discussion (FGD) on the condition of CSOs in Boyolali and their role in regional development.



As a result, the participants agreed to establish a joint forum to exchange ideas and knowledge and formulate joint steps for policy advocacy in the regions. This forum was later named the Civil Society Forum (Formmad). The forum was agreed upon with a presidium consisting of representatives from five member organizations. Formmad is also equipped with working groups that work according to the issue focus of each organization.

This was done to facilitate the mastery of issues and advocacy work in accordance with the issue focus of the member organizations.



Formmad members were also given training by LKTS to increase the capacity of the organization and Formmad members, both institutional aspects through the formulation of the Forum Performance Index (FPI), and the introduction of the preparation of the Strategic Plan (Renstra) and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). In addition to technical capacity on organizing, policy advocacy, network development, and campaign strategies were also taught.

In the MADANI Program, LKTS chose the thematic issue of maternal, newborn, and child health services (MCH). Together with Formmad, LKTS conducts joint advocacy related to thematic issues and the implementation of local solutions. Advocacy on thematic issues covers two levels, namely at the district level and at the sub-district and village levels.

At the sub-district level, advocacy is aimed at improving the quality of health center services as the frontline service for MCH. The village level was then used as a base for developing community participation to increase awareness, knowledge and

community participation. In addition, advocacy was carried out to increase village budgets for activities to improve MCH and Desa Siaga Ibu Hamil.

Advocacy at the district level was carried out to encourage the formulation of better policies for wider MCH services in Boyolali District. The policy is expected to contribute to more comprehensive reductions in maternal mortality rate (MMR)/infant mortality rate (IMR) and replication of local solutions in Boyolali District.

Beyond thematic issues, Formmad members are also actively involved in various meeting activities at both the executive and legislative levels in the regional policy process. Formmad is also a member of the acceleration team for handling *stunting* in the regions.

"From the people who participate in the making of a system or policy, it can be stated that the government has been transparent, effective, efficient, and accountable enough. A good government system is an open government system or known as 'Open Governance is Good Governance'," said the Chairman of the Central Java Provincial Information Commission, Zainal Abidin Petir.

Relationships and coordination among Formmad members improved and continue to run by maximizing WhatsApp group communication. Formmad members were also actively involved in capacity building of the MCH Alert Village Cadres in the two pilot villages. They were involved as resource persons and facilitators in the capacity building. They were also actively involved in developing a social audit instrument through the Community Score Card (CSC) and

implementing the CSC with the community and health service providers at the Puskesmas.

Formmad members were also actively involved in pushing for a budget for MCH in the 2022 village budget. They are also trying to think about its sustainability by building communication with parties, one of which is senior activists in Boyolali District to help capitalize the advocacy issues carried out into programs supported by other parties both by donor agencies and through the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program from various companies.

The sustainability of Formmad after the end of the MADANI is an issue that must be addressed by all Formmad members. There are two possible options that must be taken to continue to maintain the sustainability of Formmad. First, Formmad

remains as a forum that is tactical and strategic in nature to voice common issues in the region. However, the weakness is that, if there is no need, and no common issues that are carried, the forum, or forum relationship cannot run. So far, the issue that makes it easy for CSOs to carry and work together is the issue of disaster. This can be one of the common issues that can be promoted, even though there is already a Disaster Risk Reduction Forum where most Formmad members have been included in the forum.

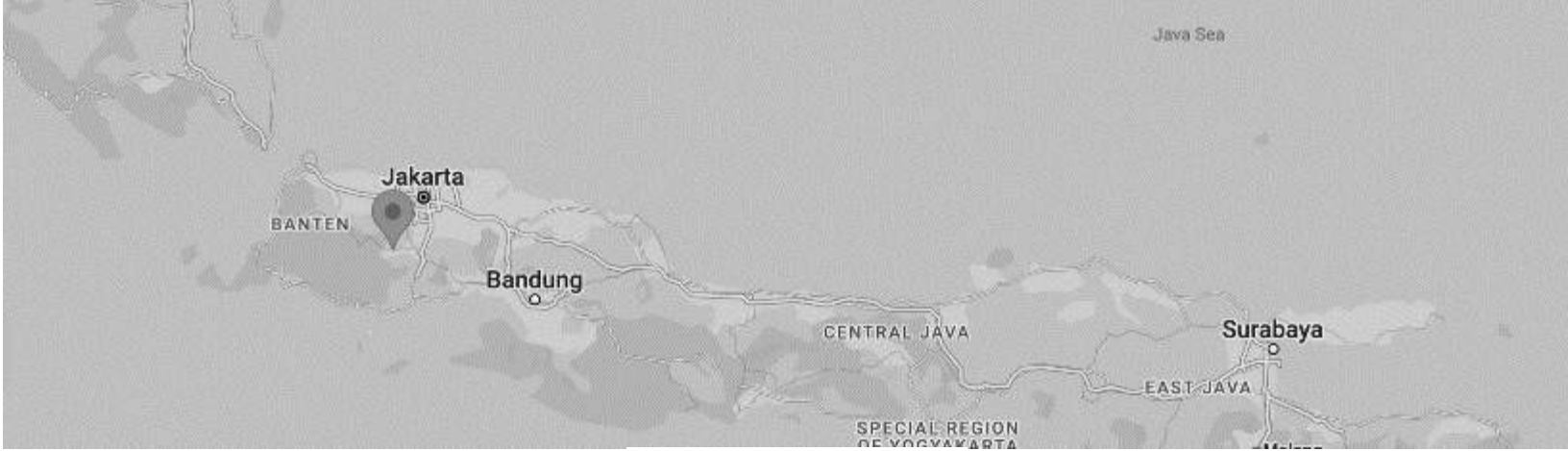
The second is to legalize Formmad into an association organization and establish cooperation with various parties in the region, both with CSR, Donors and type three self-management implementers in local governments. With this choice, it is hoped that the sustainability of Formmad can be realized.

LKTS - Boyolali

information@lkts.org

yayah.maryamah@lkts.org

www.lkts.org



Realizing Dreams and Ideals of Equal Participation of Civil Society Organizations in Bogor

Metamorfosis, Bogor

Like in any region, the development of the city of Bogor, West Java Province, is not just a matter for the government or its people. The Bogor City Government should realize equal collaboration between the three pillars that support democracy, namely the government, the private sector, and civil society. But in fact, this has not really been implemented in the field.



Based on the observation and work experience of Metamorfosis, a civil society organization that is one of MADANI's partners, CSOs are still underestimated. The Bogor City Government considers CSOs as mere disruptors of government

work. CSOs' contribution to the community is also considered as a complement to government activities, not as a key partner in development. The municipal government has not maximized the role of CSOs as agents of change, either through synergy of activities, technical and non-technical support, and capacity building.

On the other hand, CSOs in Bogor also face a myriad of problems. The capacity of each CSO in internal management, advocacy, and deepening thematic issues is often uneven. More than a few CSOs work sporadically because, organizationally, they do not have clear management and program plans. In fact, many CSOs in their working areas are better known as community organizations or Ormas - a term that is closely related to the stereotype of thuggery, so they are not accepted as community partners in social work.

Seeing the problems of CSOs, Metamorfosis took a role in creating a

forum called Forum Bogor Damai Sejahtera (FORBODAS). This forum consists of 32 activists from various organizations with different issues. In addition to the issue of tolerance that Metamorfosis is working on, FORBODAS is also led by experts in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), advocacy, and youth issues.

After an internal evaluation and discussion with each member of FORBODAS, the members agreed that one of the chronic problems of CSOs in Bogor is professional internal management. So, with the support of MADANI, Metamorfosis organized a capacity building event on how to build an organization—from determining the vision and mission, formulating Standard Operational Procedures (SOP), strategic planning, to monitoring organizational performance using the Organizational Performance Index (OPI) system.



Over time, FORBODAS became a Learning Forum that strengthens capacity according to the needs of each member organization either by sharing with each other or by inviting external resource persons. FORBODAS has held internal capacity building on organizational management, facilitation techniques, gender issues, conflict management,

Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD), human rights, and freedom of religion and belief.



FORBODAS also worked together to write a policy brief that became a reference for advocating policy changes. The hope is that, through this method, FORBODAS can realize its common goal: the realization of community participation in regional administration from planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Although still in its early stages, the impact of the knowledge sharing that takes place in FORBODAS has already begun to be felt. Metamorfosis, for example, pioneered cooperation with Katulampa and Babakan Pasar villages to create a pilot village that promotes values of tolerance and gender justice. Armed with more advanced advocacy skills and facilitation techniques, Metamorfosis is trusted to lead as a facilitator in the community - even though the activity has involved high-level Regional Apparatus Agencies (OPD) such as the National Unity and Politics Agency (Bakesbangpol) and the Bogor City Regional Secretariat.

"I really support what Metamorfosis and FORBODAS are doing," said Aep Syaifulloh, Head of the National Ideology and Insight Division at Bakesbangpol, who was present at one of the events to implement

the Village Harmony and Inclusion Program. *"In fact, I hope this way of working can be followed by other regions, and they form the same thing".*

Encouraging news continues to roll in. In the urban ward that is the focus of intervention, FORBODAS and its assisted residents have been involved in the Development Plan Deliberation (*Musrenbang*). Civil society representatives join in monitoring activities designed by the government, provide suggestions and ideas that can be developed for the future, and are given space to be involved in government activities.

The Forum's hope from the beginning was simple: FORBODAS members would gain

Metamorphosis - Bogor City

sofia@metamorfosis.or.id

sophia.opie@gmail.com

capacity building, and then gain legitimacy from the government. This is the starting point for the sustainability of resources to support CSOs to assist government work.

In order for this legitimacy to endure and be continued by the next government, FORBODAS is currently pushing for the issuance of a Regional Regulation on CSOs. This regulation will provide a legal umbrella and recognition that CSOs are indeed doing development work to help their communities. Although not easy, this step is not impossible to realize.

Before, we only dared to dream. Now we dare to aspire.



Forum Serasi Madani and its Role in Fulfilling Disability Rights to Health Services in Pekalongan District

Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama (Muslimat NU) Pekalongan

Based on data from the District of Pekalongan in Central Java in 2020, there were 6,455 people with various disabilities spread across 19 sub-districts in Pekalongan. The number is quite large and needs special attention from the Pekalongan government in fulfilling their basic rights as citizens, including the right to adequate health services.

However, in reality, Puskesmas, as the organization on the frontlines and closest to the community, has not fully included people with disabilities. Patients with disabilities have not received serious and optimal attention in health services like other patients. In fact, there are regulations that regulate the fulfillment of their rights in public services such as the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities.

This assessment is not without basis. Surveys and direct observation conducted by *Forum Serasi Madani* (FORSEMA) found that people with disabilities have not been served optimally at the Pekalongan Community Health Center (Puskesmas). Starting from the lack of accessibility in using existing infrastructure in the Puskesmas environment, to the inadequate patient handling system.



Departing from these problems, there needs to be a joint resolution made by all parties so that patients with disabilities get health insurance that is equal to other

general patients. At this level, FORSEMA acts as a forum for learning and joint action.

FORSEMA is an alliance of civil society organizations, university staff and media representatives. This initiative is a development of USAID MADANI Program in Pekalongan District through its main partner, Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) Pekalongan.

Since its formation in September 2020, FORSEMA has conducted various studies to support the Pekalongan government in improving health services to people with disabilities - including a citizen feedback survey on health services at Puskesmas in Pekalongan and a complaint survey related to the satisfaction of users of Puskesmas services in Pekalongan.

In action, FORSEMA was tasked with providing assistance and initiating the formation of community forums in each of the intervention health center areas. The Gema Nusa community forum was formed in Kedungwuni sub-district and the Ngudi Waluyo community forum in Karanganyar sub-district, all of which consisted of sub-district level Regional Apparatus Agencies (OPD), private sector representatives, community leaders, and mass organizations from religion, women and youth. The two associations then received capacity building and briefing by FORSEMA in conducting Puskesmas service accountability activities.

In an effort to achieve accountability of Puskesmas services, FORSEMA and the two citizen forums started the activity by conducting a survey of services in each Puskesmas area to service users with disabilities. A total of 109 respondents with disabilities were involved in this

survey. FORSEMA also conducted direct observations at two health centers. In the implementation of the survey, beneficiaries were involved, such as the community and the organization of the “Indonesian Physical Disabilities Association” (PPDFI) to become surveyors from data collection to data processing.

The results of the social analysis and complaint survey were then presented to the Health Office, Bappeda, Social Service Agency, and Puskesmas and then formulated into recommendations. The recommendations included the need to improve disability-specific services, improve the attitude of Puskesmas personnel, procure disability-specific human resources, and provide facilities for people with disabilities at Puskesmas.

Through the Citizens' Forum, the two associations actively and intensely advocate through the District Development Planning Meeting (*Musrenbang*) to the District *Musrenbang* in the Regional Development Work Plan (RKPD) meetings of the Health Office, Social Office and Housing and Settlement Area Office. This advocacy resulted in input recommendations and a draft budget for special infrastructure facilities



for persons with disabilities for 2023 at the two pilot health centers.

As a long-term strategy, FORSEMA is pushing for the issuance of a District Head Regulation (Perbup) on Health Services to Persons with Disabilities at Pekalongan District Health Center. During an audience with Pekalongan Regent Fadia Arafiq, FORSEMA Chairperson Safrudin Huna said that the issuance of this Perbup is urgent.

"From the results of the FGDs that we have conducted with various parties, the immediate issuance of this Regent Regulation is very important," he said. "Apart from being a derivative of the Pekalongan District Regulation No. 2 of 2020, it is also a technical guideline for Puskesmas and other stakeholders in planning programs and budgeting for the realization of inclusive health services in Pekalongan District."

This encouragement was welcomed by the Regent of Pekalongan, Mrs. Fadia Arafiq, S.E., M.M. *"Regarding the health service program for persons with disabilities, the local government through the Health Office has also issued a Circular Letter on the priority of health services for persons with disabilities which has been circulated. Then for the draft Perbup on Disability, we received it and technically it will be followed up immediately,"* concluded Regent Fadia.

FORSEMA also supported the issuance of the Perbup by conducting two hearings with the legislature from Commission IV DPRD which was attended by cross-OPDs. After the second hearing, the Legal Section of the Regional Secretariat facilitated the needs of persons with disabilities through a draft Perbup that was already at the synchronization and

harmonization stage. Furthermore, the Pekalongan DPRD supports that all health centers provide or build services and facilities that are friendly and appropriate for persons with disabilities.

The hard work of FORSEMA and the two community forums, along with the support of all parties, has finally paid off.



At the joint monitoring meeting for the realization of the Disability Friendly Puskesmas (PRD) at the two pilot Puskesmas, the heads of Puskesmas Kedungwuni I and Puskesmas Karanganyar reported significant progress in the development stages.

The head of Kedungwuni I Health Center, Dr. Dina, explained that she is currently making improvements to infrastructure. *"We are working on the construction of a special toilet for people with disabilities that is close to the position of the special parking lot for people with disabilities so that when they want to use it, they are not too far away,"* she explained. *"The*

spacious toilet will make it easier for people with disabilities to move around in the toilet, especially for visitors who use wheelchairs or walkers. The size of the disabled toilet is approximately three times that of a normal toilet."

The stage-by-stage development towards the realization of PRD does require a long process and is not as easy as turning the

palm of the hand. However, from these significant developments, progress has emerged that is highly appreciated by all parties including FORSEMA. All of this is proof of the commitment of every party, including the Health Office, in encouraging the realization of disability-friendly health centers in Pekalongan District.

Muslimat NU – District of Pekalongan

muslimat.kabpkl@gmail.com

sumarwatiwmdf4@gmail.com

www.muslimat-nu.or.id



The Journey of Inclusive Village Youth Forum in Makassar

Institute of Community Justice (ICJ) Makassar

Brawls in the City of Makassar in South Sulawesi seem to have become a common thing. News of brawls often appears in the media. According to monitoring data from the Institute of Community Justice (ICJ) in Makassar, throughout 2021-2022, every month there is a brawl case that occurs around the urban Makassar area.

The causes of these brawls are often trivial. In the case of the brawl that occurred on January 22, 2022, for example, news circulated that a group of residents provoked the emotions of another group of residents who were their “historical enemies”. This led to a clash between the two groups. In the brawl, the police arrested 16 people. *“Conflict occurs because of friction between individuals,”* said Rahmat Muhammad, a sociologist from Hasanuddin University. *“For example, A has a conflict with B. They have their own in-group and out-group. They have their own in-group and out-group. There is a*

mutual invitation so that there is a conflict with more actors.”



Looking at this phenomenon, teenagers in Makassar city have actually shown the value of solidarity with each other. They have a social group that is close-knit, followed by many other young people, and can influence each other—both for positively and negatively. Unfortunately, so far this “solidarity” has only been conveyed through brawls with other groups—internal solidarity-building based on a common enemy. The lack of a positive platform for participation has attracted students in Makassar to

participate in neighborhood and school brawls.

Makassar is also a place where people come from all over the island of Sulawesi and Eastern Indonesia to try their luck. Various ethnicities and religions co-exist in Makassar, and they tend to gather in their respective areas. This can be a potential conflict if there is no bridging process between migrants and natives.

In early 2022, for example, there were a series of conflicts between students from Bone and students from Palopo. This conflict almost cost lives. Fortunately, this conflict was immediately responded to by the police and also reconciled by cultural experts from various parties.

This led ICJ, USAID MADANI's partner in Makassar, to focus on the issue of diversity and youth participation as an issue that needed attention. After discussions with the Makassar Youth and Sports Office (DISPORA), in collaboration with USAID MADANI, ICJ took the initiative to establish an "Inclusive Youth Community Forum" in 2020. This forum is expected to be one of the platforms for positive activities and youth participation in development. The establishment of the Inclusive Village Youth Community Forum was carried out in two piloting villages as an initial step in reducing the number of brawls in Makassar, namely in Ballang Baru Village, Tamalate District, and Sambung Jawa Village, Mamajang District, Makassar City.

Thus, the Tau Rungkana Inclusion Forum of Balang Baru and the Inclusion Youth Community Forum of Sambung Jawa were born. Both forums are now one year old. They have gone through ups and downs, to fight for roles and participation in their

respective areas. They shared various good practices that they have done in their neighborhoods. Most importantly, they will participate in the development process of the future, by being involved in the village development planning deliberation (*Musrenbang*) process.

In a discussion, the Chairperson of the Sambung Jawa Inclusive Youth Community Forum described his experience of receiving capacity building from ICJ. Capacity building in the form of a



method for assessing social accountability through an assessment of youth programs and youth services at the neighborhood and municipal level. The assessment is carried out using the Community Score Card method. In the same place, Rahmat Daeng Sikki, the head of Tau Rungkana Inclusion Youth Community Forum for the ward of Balang Baru, also shared his experience in getting capacity building from ICJ, in terms of conducting social analysis in responding to youth issues and youth diversity issues in his village.

To date, youth members of both forums continue to be involved in capacity building and capacity building for the prevention and reporting of inter-community conflict cases. In fact, currently with the support of the Makassar Youth and Sports Office, ICJ has formulated a policy brief containing recommendations related to youth policy.

It is hoped that this policy brief *will* become an asset to encourage policy changes that can accommodate the active participation of young people in development.

Some of the policy brief recommendations include mainstreaming youth issues in development, encouraging the birth of regional policies on the role of young people in promoting diversity, the formation of Youth Group Forums at the village level, and providing spaces for creativity and expression in Makassar city.

ICJ' efforts to reduce the number of inter-group violence received a positive response and support from the Makassar City Head of Youth and Sports, Andi Pattiware. *"I really appreciate the work that ICJ has done, and will support plans related to youth,"* he said during one of the hearings. *"Moreover, Makassar City has won the title of Youth City in 2017."*

Other neighborhoods are now moving to adopt this inclusive youth forum. ICJ conducted socialization in Pa'batang Village and Mandala Village, both in

Mamajang Sub-district. This activity was a follow-up to a meeting held with Mamajang Sub-district Head Ary Fadly, S.STP., MM, who will replicate the Inclusive Village Youth Community Forum in four wards in Mamajang Sub-district. Similar to the ward of Pa'batang, the follow-up action taken by Lurah Mandala was to collect the names of youth who will join the Inclusion Youth Community Forum.

The replication will continue in two other villages, Bonto Biraeng and Labuang Baji. This activity has demonstrated the commitment of the ward heads to the involvement of youth roles and participation in the village.

The establishment of the Inclusive Youth Community Forum is expected to be the answer to the rampant brawls in Makassar City. Although not an easy task, ICJ is optimistic that it can reduce violence by involving more young people - both in capacity building, government activities, and activities to maximize their relationship with the community.

Institute of Community Justice ICJ Makassar

icjmks@gmail.com

ida.syafie@yahoo.co.id

<https://icjmakassar.org>



Strengthening Civil Society Organizations in Klaten through Sinau Bareng Forum

Perhimpunan Untuk Studi dan Pengembangan Ekonomi dan Sosial (PERSEPSI), Klaten

Simpul Sinau Bareng (SSB) is a multi-stakeholder citizen forum consisting of 14 civil society and professional organizations in the district of Klaten, Central Java. Established on October 8, 2020, this multi-stakeholder forum was initiated by the *Perhimpunan Untuk Studi dan Pengembangan Ekonomi dan Sosial* or The Association for Economic and Social Studies and Developmen (PERSEPSI), as part of its role as a partner of the USAID MADANI Program in Klaten.



One of the routine activities of the SSB is a regular meeting to discuss thematic issues related to the high number of maternal and newborn deaths in Klaten. Based on data from the Klaten District Health Office, the number of maternal deaths has decreased from year to year. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of maternal deaths has increased again due to exposure to the COVID-19 disease..

In addition, based on a limited public service survey conducted by PERSEPSI, one of the causes of high maternal mortality is the lack of awareness and concern of pregnant women to check at Community Health Centers (*Puskesmas*) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On the other hand, it is also due to a decrease in the intensity of services provided by *Puskesmas*, in addition to medical personnel who must maintain distance

and not touch during the COVID-19 pandemic, so that health services for pregnant women become less optimal.

Departing from the data and information above, Klaten SSB members agreed to further explore the causes of the high number of maternal and infant deaths in Klaten District, by conducting a study of existing regulations, and limited field research. The results of the study and research will be used as material in preparing a policy brief that will be communicated to interested parties, especially the Klaten Government.

So far, SSB has also undertaken various other initiatives to develop the capacity of the CSOs that are members of it. One of them is through efforts to encourage CSO involvement in the implementation of Presidential Regulation No.16/2018. The issuance of Presidential Regulation 16/2018 which was updated with Presidential Regulation 12/2021 on Government Procurement of Goods and Services, provides an opportunity for CSOs incorporated as Foundations and Associations to participate in the provision of goods and services for the government, through a mechanism referred to as Swakelola Type 3.

In this regard, the SSB Forum held an audience with the Klaten Goods and Services Procurement Service (LPBJ). This activity aims to dialogue about the implementation of the Perpres in Klaten, opportunities and qualifications needed for CSOs. Head of LPBJ Fadzar Indriawan expressed his appreciation, and supported cooperation between parties in the

development process in Klaten, including the involvement of CSOs through Type 3 Self-Management cooperation. Therefore, SSB was advised to conduct further discussions with the Regional Research and Development Planning Agency (*Bappedalitbang*) as the planner and Regional Apparatus Agencies authorized to choose the cooperation model.



On another occasion, the Sinau Bareng Forum conducted a review of the organization's performance and activity planning. They discussed the results of the Forum Performance Index (FPI) measurement and the preparation of a work plan.

From the measurement results of FPI in 2022, the highest score is the organizational governance domain with indicators that the organizational structure, management structure, vision and mission, and organizational rules have been compiled. The lowest score is the resource domain, with indicators of low financial resources, and that funding

cooperation with other parties has not been established.



Qoriek Asmarawati as the Secretary of Sinau Bareng Forum emphasized that the preparation of this plan is very important as a guideline for the Forum in carrying out activities, as well as an instrument for year-end evaluation. It is also useful for

organizational preparation after the end of USAID MADANI Program support in Klaten.

Forum Sumpul Sinau Bareng continues to strive to strengthen the capacity of CSOs in Klaten District, and this is in line with SSB's efforts in fighting for sustainability aspects after the USAID MADANI Program. Because CSOs should be independent in running their organizations, with or without intervention from other parties. Hopefully SSB can continue to grow, enlarge the number of its members, as well as increase the capacity of its members in realizing their respective visions and missions for community empowerment.

PERCEPTION - Klaten

persepsi@indo.net.id

zulfanahwa@gmail.com



Managing Waste Together in Mempawah

Pimpinan Daerah Aisyiyah (PDA) Mempawah

The waste problem in the district of Mempawah, West Kalimantan, is still daunting. Based on data from the Mempawah Agency of Transportation and Environment, the amount of waste generated in Mempawah in 2020 was 86 tons per day. However, only 21 tons per day or approximately 26% of the total amount of waste generated is transported and processed to the final disposal site (TPA). This means that every day there are 64 tons or about 74% of the waste in Mempawah that is not properly managed.

This condition occurs due to the lack of waste management facilities and infrastructure owned by the Mempawah Government. This is exacerbated by the condition of the Sungai Bakau Besar Laut Landfill, an open dumping landfill that will experience an estimated age limit in 2025. The impact of this waste problem on the environment is very clear: starting from pollution of the sea, rivers, inhibiting groundwater processes, soil pollution and

making water and soil unhealthy for humans and other living things.



Not only that, the behavior of the people of Mempawah in managing waste is still damaging the environment. Most of them still use the traditional system by burning, planting, and throwing into the river. Many people do not realize that this is actually causing new environmental damage.

Waste management is a critical issue that must be addressed immediately in Mempawah. The community and local government must both be involved in this process. It needs a method that also

empowers the community through the waste management process.



One of the efforts to make waste management economically valuable is through the initiation of “waste banks” (*Bank Sampah*). A waste bank is a facility that can be used by the community to bring waste that has been sorted and has economic value. Organic waste can be processed into compost and inorganic waste made from plastic can be turned into craft products that can empower the community in waste management. This is one way of reusing items that were previously discarded.

Seeing this potential, *Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah Mempawah* or PDA ('Aisyiyah Regional Branch) as the Lead Partner of the USAID MADANI Program initiated the formation of the *Simpul Mempawah Madani* (SIMA) Forum which carries the thematic issue of waste management. PDA and the SIMA Forum conducted joint learning and action activities to find solutions to the waste problem in Mempawah District and determined two intervention village locations that are used as pilot villages in solid waste management. The two villages are Sungai Kunyit Laut Village in Sungai Kunyit Sub-district, and Sungai Bakau Besar Laut Village in Sungai Pinyuh Sub-district.

In April 2022, SIMA Forums were inaugurated in both villages. During discussions with villagers and other stakeholders, many new ideas and important inputs emerged. Mr. Hetizam from the Sungai Kunyit Laut Village Government, for example, stated that conditions such as those experienced by his village, which is far from the reach of landfills, need to find alternative solutions for solid waste management.



The key, according to key actors in the village, is to build awareness. "As housewives, we sometimes litter without realizing it," says Yeni, a Sungai Bakau Besar Laut villager who is active in the SIMA Forum. "Usually the garbage is thrown into the river or ditch so that little by little the garbage pollutes our environment."

Therefore, one of the PDA's work programs through the SIMA Forum is to conduct a collaborative waste cleanup action to create a sense of awareness and responsibility for waste in the surrounding environment. The PDA and Mempawah Mangrove Conservation (MCC) collaborated to organize the activity at the Mempawah Mangrove Park (MMP), which was attended by approximately 50 people. "We hope that this kind of activity can be

applied by the participants in their respective neighborhoods," said Raja Fajar Azansyah, the initiator of the event.

This action also collaborated with the *Seasoldier* organization and *Pokdarwis* MMP and involved students from primary and junior high schools in Mempawah with the aim of providing education and raising awareness and responsibility for the waste they produce from an early age.

Waste awareness should start as early as possible at the individual level, considering that every human activity will more or less produce waste. Indifference to the waste problem will further accumulate waste generation, which will certainly have a greater impact and harm humans themselves. Starting with one individual and continuing with one household, and continuing to all citizens must have responsibility for waste.

Perangkat Daerah 'Aisyiyah Mempawah
aisyiyah.mempawah@gmail.com

LOCAL SOLUTIONS

Stories of community initiatives assisted by USAID MADANI's Lead Partners in alleviating important problems in their neighborhoods.



Eska Unggul Indonesia, Engaging Stakeholders to Fight for Improved Maternal and Infant Health in Brebes District

Yayasan Eska Unggul Indonesia (Eska) Brebes

The problem of maternal, newborn, and child mortality in the District of Brebes in Central Java has never really been solved. From 2012 to 2021, Brebes has always been the highest contributor to the maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR) in Central Java. In 2021 alone, there were 105 cases of deaths of pregnant women and 283 cases of infant deaths there, a fact that is quite alarming. Brebes has taken various measures to tackle the problem of maternal mortality and infant mortality, including issuing regulations and policies related to health issues. However, until now these policies and regulations have not been optimally implemented so that they have not been able to significantly reduce MMR and IMR. Therefore, there needs to be a breakthrough to find solutions in dealing with maternal mortality and infant mortality cases.

Seeing this reality, Eska Unggul Indonesia Foundation (Eska), a local organization concerned with maternal and infant health



issues in Brebes, did not remain silent. Through the USAID MADANI Program, in 2020 Eska established a forum called *Komunitas Brebes Bersama*, abbreviated as KOBBER. The word *kober* itself, in Javanese, means being ready to spare time, energy, material, and thoughts. And that is exactly what the twelve members of this forum, the majority of whom are civil society organizations at the local level, are doing, working together to try to find solutions to reduce MMR and IMR.

Eska and KOBBER selected two villages in Brebes District, which served as "social laboratories" to understand the causes and find solutions to the high MMR and

IMR. The two villages have very different characters and conditions. The first village, Pesantunan, is located in a semi-urban area close to the center of government, only about 500 meters west of the Brebes Town Square. However, in 2020, this village had become the largest contributor to MMR and IMR in Brebes. Meanwhile, the village of Sengon is located in Tanjung Sub-district with a considerable distance (22 kilometers) from the center of Brebes, but is a village with zero MMR and IMR. In terms of the availability of health services from the local government, Sengon has more complete *Puskesmas* facilities for handling pregnant women and newborns, while the *Puskesmas* serving Pesantunan only has basic facilities for pregnant women and infants.

In these two villages, *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* (“MCH Alert Village”) mobilization teams were formed. *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* is a national concept where the village government and community have prepared resources and capacity related to health issues and emergency response to pregnant women and newborns. The team should consist of community representatives in each village, who have the task of collecting data, assisting, communicating with health workers, educating pregnant women and their families, as well as monitoring and providing feedback on health services at the basic level. Through this team, pregnant women are provided with information as well as education and training about pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period.

One important role of the Alert Village team is to break with tradition. The health

problems of pregnant women and infants need to be treated medically and not through superstitious means, and team members must really instill this mindset in the communities in their respective



villages. For example, the local government's efforts through the Childbirth Planning and Complication Prevention Program (P4K), by placing P4K stickers in the homes of pregnant women, was opposed because it was believed that inviting spirits into the house would interfere with the owner's pregnancy. In fact, through P4K, every pregnant woman will be recorded and monitored accurately and quickly. The *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* mobilization team reports the results of their work periodically to the village development team. Through data collection and monitoring of pregnant women, it is hoped that their condition can be monitored properly.

So far, *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* in Pesantunan has developed more rapidly than Sengon. This may be due to the fact that Pesantunan villagers are more motivated to reduce MMR and IMR in their village, despite the limited health center facilities. In Pesantunan, Eska and KOBBER even managed to assist Pesantunan to establish a *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* Team not only at the village level, but also at the community level, the *Rukun Warga (RW)*. The existence of this team at the RW level will certainly result in more effective monitoring and assistance for pregnant women, so that pregnancy emergencies can be handled more quickly.

This approach contributed to the decline in MMR in Pesantunan. In 2020 there were four cases of maternal mortality in the village, but in 2021 these decreased to only 1, and until June 2022, no cases of maternal mortality were found. This is encouraging news, and the result of the commitment and hard work of all stakeholders in Brebes. Eska and KOBBER have consistently worked to bridge and assist these stakeholders, from the village community level, to the Brebes Government, especially the Health Office.

This good news was heard by the Regent of Brebes. He positively welcomed the *KIBBLA Alert Village* initiated by Eska and KOBBER through the USAID MADANI Program, and committed to replicate it in all 292 villages in Brebes District. At the end of May 2022, he held a coordination meeting with all Regional Apparatus Agencies (OPD), Sub-District Heads,

Village Heads and other stakeholders at the Brebes District Hall.

Not long after, the socialization of *Desa Siaga KIBBLA* began. "Hopefully, the *KIBBLA Alert Village* can become a forum for the



community and the health service system to organize various health programs, especially to deal with pregnant women, laboring women, postpartum women and newborns. Therefore, community preparedness really needs to be encouraged by providing accurate and fast information about the situation and problems they face," said the hope of the Deputy Regent of Brebes on the occasion.

"We, the village heads in Brebes District, are ready to implement *Desa Siaga* for maternal, newborn and child health to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates," they declared. With the efforts of various stakeholders to address maternal and infant health issues in Brebes, hopefully the reputation as the highest contributor to MMR and IMR in Central Java Province will soon be a distant memory

Eska Unggul Indonesia Foundation
eskaunggulindonesia@gmail.com

topherwanto@gmail.com



Paramitra's Efforts for Maternal and Child Health in Malang

Yayasan Paramitra, District of Malang

The maternal, newborn, and child mortality cases are issues that require serious attention in Malang District, one of the districts with a high number of Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), as well as stunting cases in East Java Province. The MMR in 2019 reached 28 cases, in 2020 25 cases, and in 2021 it rose dramatically to 56 cases. Meanwhile, infant mortality in 2021 alone reached 68 cases. There are various causes of this condition, ranging from the commonality of child marriage, late handling of pregnancy symptoms, the reluctance of high-risk pregnant women to make their condition known to others, and the tendency of pregnant women to choose independent midwives whose services are outside the reach of the *Puskesmas*.

There is an ironic story about this. Ibu Lina (not her real name), had to lose the fetus in her womb at 37 weeks of pregnancy, a gestational age very close to the estimated time of birth. During this time, the examination services accessed by Ibu Lina, namely through independent midwives (outside the reach of *Puskesmas* services), always stated that the fetus in her womb was in good condition. However, when Ibu Lina checked with an obstetrician, it was found that the fetal development was experiencing growth disturbances, the cause of the disturbance was not detected, and it was too late.

It turned out that the root of the problem was trivial, but fatal. The MCH Book that serves as a medical history record book during pregnancy, commonly called the KIA Book, the Pink Book, or the Maternal and Child Health Book, was not used by

the independent midwife where Ibu Lina had her check-up in the village. This MCH Book is issued by the government and should be uniformly used in all maternal and child health facilities. The absence of Ibu Lina's MCH Book resulted in no record of her pregnancy's history, so that the abnormalities she experienced were not detected.



This is the time to act. Had the use of the Pink Book been properly implemented, Ibu Lina's fate might have been different. Yayasan Paramitra, a civil society organization that observes maternal and child health (MCH) issues in the district of Malang in East Java, sees the urgency of the need for structuring and reaching an agreement that the MCH book will be used by all MCH services, ranging from village midwives, Puskesmas, Auxiliary Community Health Center (Pustu), Village Health Posts (Poskesdes), obstetricians, and other parties with an interest in MCH issues.

Initially, Paramitra, through the USAID MADANI Program, sought to activate the *Desa Siaga* Program ("Alert Village) in two pilot villages, Pagedangan and

Talangsuko, both in Turen Sub-district. The *Desa Siaga* program in these two villages has been dormant for quite some time. An *Desa Siaga* is a village that has the potential readiness to recognize, prevent and overcome health problems faced and occurring in its area independently.

Together with the Puskesmas, efforts to revive *Desa Siaga* became the forerunner of the MCH Forum in each village. The MCH Forum involves various health elements in the village such as health cadres, stunting cadres, members of the Family Support Team (TPK), and Community Empowerment Cadres (KPM).

Currently, the work of these village cadres has the same goal, namely handling maternal, infant and stunting deaths, but, in the field, there are overlapping jobs that certainly require reorganization so that their work is effective, efficient and right on target. The MCH Forum is expected to be able to help realize good coordination between MCH actors in the village. *"I appreciate the establishment of the MCH Forum at the village level, which will be an innovation in handling MCH issues, especially at the Turen Health Center,"* said the Head of the Turen Health Center.

Through various discussions and meetings of the MCH Forum assisted by Paramitra, several recommendations have been formulated. First, there needs to be a policy or regulation that regulates the importance of the MCH book as a reference record of the MCH examination

process. The MCH Book must be used by the community (mothers and children) in all MCH services, whether government or private. The next recommendation is to improve the service and quality of Auxiliary Community Health Center (Pustu), optimize the guidance and networking of independent practice midwives and private hospitals in the district of Malang.

In addition, the MCH Forum, especially in Pagedangan, realized the need to prevent stunting early on, by encouraging the

village government to issue a village regulation that requires prospective brides to undergo a health check before marriage.

With the reactivation of the *Desa Siaga* Program and the identification of the root causes of MCH problems in the assisted areas, it is hoped that the recommendations formulated by the MCH Forum can be implemented, and later replicated in other villages so that gradually there will be no more cases like Ibu Lina in Malang.

Paramitra Foundation

yjm_jatim@yahoo.com

asiahsugianti69@gmail.com



A Glimmer of Hope for Pregnant Women and Newborns in Bulukumba

Pimpinan Daerah Nasyyatul 'Aisyiyah (PDNA) Bulukumba

The maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR) in Bulukumba District, South Sulawesi Province, are still high. Based on data from the Bulukumba District Health Office, in 2021 the number of deaths of new mothers and newborns reached 56. This condition occurs due to the lack of optimization in the implementation of Regent Regulation No. 73/2015 on saving mothers in childbirth and newborns, and the low level of community participation and awareness.

This fact made the Perangkat Daerah Nasyyatul 'Aisyiyah (PDNA or the Regional Branch of Nasyyatul 'Aisyiyah) Bulukumba as one of Muhammadiyah's autonomous organizations engaged in women's issues, feel moved to find solutions. PDNA Bulukumba joined as a Lead Partner of the USAID MADANI program, and chose the main focus of its activities in the program

on the issue of maternal, newborn and child health (MCH) issues in general.



PDNA's work was strengthened by the establishment of a Learning Forum of the Maternal and Child Health Care Forum (FORMAP-KIA), which is a forum for discussion and synergy between civil society organizations related to and interested in MCH issues. PDNA Bulukumba together with this forum conducts joint learning activities and joint actions in advocating MCH as an effort to

reduce maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR).



In addition to FORMAP-KIA at the District level, PDNA Bulukumba established three assisted villages; namely Taccorong Village in Gantorang Sub-district, Salassae Village in Bulukumpa Sub-district, and Benteng Palioi Village in Kindang Sub-district. In each village, a village forum was formed, with the Maternal and Child Health Response and Care Forum (DUTA-KIA) in Taccorong Village, the MCH Activist Forum in Benteng Palioi Village, and the MCH Care Community (TALI-KIA) in Salassae Village. The forum members conducted education, socialization, and motivation for pregnant women to remain calm in facing childbirth. In addition to mentoring, forum members also collected data on pregnant women. PDNA Bulukumba went down to monitor and

evaluate the data collection and assistance of pregnant women. This evaluation successfully identified the problems faced by pregnant women, including population administration issues (*adminduk*), the location health services that are too far to reach, migrant residents who do not routinely check pregnancy, and the prevalence of pregnant women with chronic energy deficiency conditions and high-risk pregnancy conditions.

"Pregnant women are connected with active village midwives, so that pregnant women can consult their pregnancy problems and early detection in pregnancy can be known by health workers," said Andi Uppi Anggraini, head of the DUTA-KIA Forum in Taccorong Village.

"TALI-KIA has contributed to improving health services in Salassae. Hopefully in the future this forum will continue to actively participate in improving health, especially for mothers and babies," said the Salassae Village Head.

Based on the results of this data collection, PDNA coordinated with various parties and received a response from the village government by forming a blood-ready village which was socialized at the Nutrition Day commemoration. In addition to the village government, members of the local parliament also responded to the data collection by collaborating on Zero MMR and IMR during nutrition day celebrations. The local government also provided nutrition packages to pregnant women with SEZ and high-risk pregnant women.

Mrs. Ratnawati, one of DUTA-KIA's beneficiaries, is a high-risk pregnant woman. She required a caesarean section

procedure to give birth, , which cost a lot. The problem is, Ratnawati's mother has arrears in BPJS Health contributions for approximately two years because her family is experiencing economic problems due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Forum members, together with PDNA Bulukumba and DPRD members together with the National Amil Zakat Agency (BAZNAS) visited Mrs. Ratnawati to see her condition directly. BPJS arrears were finally paid off by BAZNAS, and by DPRD members it was suggested to transfer Mrs. Ratnawati's BPJS status from independent BPJS to BPJS Contribution Assistance Recipient (PBI). However, the process of transferring BPJS status did not go smoothly, so that at the appointed time to undergo the caesarean section procedure, her BPJS status was still in arrears. PDNA Bulukumba moved again with related parties to overcome this problem, and finally when Mrs. Ratnawati and her baby recovered after surgery, all arrears had been resolved and Mrs. Ratnawati's BPJS status had switched to BPJS PBI.

"I am so grateful", said Mrs. Ratnawati. "With this forum, there is someone to assist her during risky situations. I had given up

because it was impossible to pay off the arrears of dues and fines, but with the help of various parties I was able to give birth safely".



Without good collaboration and communication between related parties, it would have been impossible for Mrs. Ratnawati and her baby to be saved. Hopefully, PDNA Bulukumba's hard work in fighting for the health of pregnant women and newborns can be followed by other elements of society, so that the impact can be felt more widely.

Perangkat Daerah Nasyyiatul 'Aisyiyah Bulukumba

nasyiatulaisyiyah.blk@gmail.com

satnanasyiah@gmail.com



Slowly but surely, Gresik is alleviating the waste problem

PATTIRO, Gresik

Waste is a problem in almost all regions of Indonesia, including Gresik, East Java. The rate of population growth accompanied by changes in people's consumption patterns is increasingly putting pressure on the Ngipik Landfill (TPA), the only waste disposal site for Gresik. In fact, according to calculations by the Gresik Environmental Agency (DLH), Ngipik landfill is predicted to be overcapacity starting July 2022.



Therefore, concrete steps are needed to reduce the rate of waste growth and improve waste management data in the Gresik area. Every element of society,

from the village to the district level, must participate in solving these problems.

In response to this critical issue, PATTIRO Gresik as the main partner of USAID MADANI established a multi-stakeholder forum called Simpul Belajar GIRI (Gresik Iso Resik and Inovatif). The learning forum includes representatives from the government, universities, businesses, and civil society organizations.

Through regular meetings, discussions, and hearings facilitated by PATTIRO, efforts that have been made to tackle the waste problem in Gresik were mapped and future steps were encouraged. GIRI Learning Forums are also provided with capacity building related to waste, either from the district government directly, organizations that have focused on waste issues since the beginning, or cadres of environmental activists.

After a survey of respondents in several sub-districts in Gresik, two piloting villages for waste issues were selected: Balongpanggung village in Balongpanggung sub-district and Pegundan village in Bungah sub-district. The character of the two villages is unique. Balongpanggung village has so far focused on developing a waste bank, while Pegundan village established a *Reduced, Reused, Recycled* Waste Disposal Site (TPS 3R) as a temporary waste disposal solution.

However, their initiatives have not been fully successful. In Pegundan, the village government has established TPS 3R since 2019 to deal with waste issues, especially plastic waste. However, this TPS has not been running optimally due to the lack of knowledge related to waste management and the lack of concern of residents for waste segregation from the source.

"Public awareness to process waste is still not matched by the availability of facilities and infrastructure at TPS 3R, so management at TPS 3R is still stagnant." Said Ainul Yaqin, Pegundan village secretary. *"In addition, the management of organic waste into compost cannot be maximized, because Pegundan Village is a farming area."*

This problem is slowly being addressed. In both piloting villages, PATTIRO formed a Support Team consisting of residents and village government. They are tasked with

being PATTIRO's partners in overseeing waste management issues. Joint activities always involve GIRI Learning Forums that are competent in their fields— for example, experts in waste management and waste banks.



One of PATTIRO's routine activities with GIRI is Jammilah (Ajak Mengolah dan Memilah Sampah), a means of education and socialization of waste management and sorting from the source. Through this program, residents are invited to weigh their waste in the Waste Bank so that it can add economic value. Residents are also given the ability to process organic waste into *eco enzyme* and fertilizer. Inorganic waste is also taught to be processed into handicrafts such as bags from product packaging waste and soap from used cooking oil.

"Together with Pattiro Gresik we were brought together with many environmental activists who are activists in waste management. So we can learn about maggot cultivation, and making ECO enzymes for handling organic waste." said the Pegundan village secretary further.

The situation is different in Balongpanggung village. This village actually has an independent waste bank. However, the waste bank is run on a shoestring budget, due to a lack of knowledge about waste management and waste bank management. After being selected as a pilot village and receiving assistance from PATTIRO Gresik and Forum GIRI, Balongpanggung village was able to learn little by little.



"The obstacle that we experience in the waste bank that we are running now is that there is no transportation for transporting waste. So, currently, we are still manually using wheelbarrows," concluded Eka as one of the Support Team in Balongpanggung village.

In addition to the lack of infrastructure, there is also a lack of support from the village government regarding waste management that has been carried out. *"The lack of government role in Balongpanggung Village is one of the obstacles, but we continue to encourage the participation of the government's active role in waste management in the*

village," said Siti Fitriah, Coordinator of GIRI Learning Forum as well as the facilitator of the two piloting villages.

However, after intensive assistance by PATTIRO Gresik and Simpul Belajar GIRI, the village government began to open up and support the existing Waste Bank. This is evidenced by the village's willingness to make a decree for the supporting team of the waste management program in Balongpanggung village and also the village's willingness to realize the village regulation on waste management which is still in the draft stage. Balongpanggung Village also had the opportunity to participate in the East Java Provincial level Desa Berseri assessment in March 2022.

These actions are starting to get more appreciation from the government. "We will collaborate together to organize and manage waste," said Umaya, Head of the Waste Management Section of the Gresik Environment Agency. *"Areas like Balongpanggung are already okay in waste management. We really look forward to collaborating with activists like this."*

With the support team, Forum GIRI, and the strengthening of each village's official decree, our team's actions will be more agile and targeted. Members of the Learning Forums will continue to play an active role in education, socialization, and mentoring related to waste management. Through the opening of cooperation channels with related agencies such as the

Community and Village Empowerment
Office and DLH Gresik, we can also assist

village governments to make policies on
waste management at the village level.

PATTIRO - Gresik

gresik_pattiro@yahoo.com

gresik_pattiro@yahoo.com



Through Direct Assistance, SAKINA RAPIH Fights High Maternal and Infant Mortality in Garut

Pimpinan Daerah Naswiatul 'Aisyiyah (PDNA) Garut

In the last two years, cases of maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR) in the district of Garut have consistently ranked the highest in West Java Province. Data from the Indonesian Midwives Association (IBI), revealed that there were 112 cases of MMR and 216 cases of IMR in Garut in 2021. This figure shows that even though Garut is a modern district with a population of millions of people, the issue of access to health services and public knowledge about maternal and child health (MCH) is still minimal.

One of the most common causes of maternal and child mortality in Garut is the habit of bringing traditional midwives to the house rather than going to a health clinic or hospital. "In Garut, there are still many mothers who give birth at home by

bringing in midwives, even though the infrastructure at home is inadequate. This has a high risk," said the Head of Public Welfare Division of the Garut District Health Office, dr. Tri Cahyo Nugroho.

One of the homework of the District Health Office and the Garut district government, said Dr. Tri, is to direct mothers to "no longer give birth at home, at least directed to give birth at the Puskesmas." However, to realize that, there are many steep roads that must be climbed first. Health centers are required to improve maternal and child health services; and health workers need to be more active in counseling residents. In addition, community Posyandu cadres (Village Integrated Health Posts) as the frontline of MCH services need to be equipped with special knowledge

regarding maternal and newborn health (MCH).

Seeing the need for special assistance on the issue of MCH in Garut district, Perangkat Daerah Nasyiatul 'Aisyiyah Garut (the regional branch of Nasyiatul 'Aisyiyah) together with USAID MADANI launched a program called "Stop Maternal and Child Deaths Volunteer to Assist Pregnant Mothers", or SAKINA RAPIH for short. One of the main goals of SAKINA RAPIH is the emergence of at least two volunteers per neighborhood in each village in Garut who have special skills to provide assistance on the issue of MCH. With support from MADANI, PDNA Garut initiated this program together with the learning forum Forum Advocacy for Great Children Healthy Mothers, or FAASIH.



In the process of forming and validating the SAKINA RAPIH team, PDNA and FAASIH undertook several stages and strategies. The first step was to conduct advocacy and hearings with the local government, from sub-district to village level, along with relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations such as the Health Office and the Community and Village Empowerment Office.

Through this advocacy, PDNA encouraged the village government to issue a decree

on the task and provide a special budget to address the issue of MMR and IMR. Afterwards, PDNA, FAASIH and other local partners agreed on the intervention activities and began to provide training and team capacity building to the villages selected for the *piloting* program.



One of the keys to the success of the program agreed by each partner is the importance of collaborative efforts, especially with local communities. Residents must be involved in monitoring and assisting the safety of pregnant women, mothers giving birth, and breastfeeding mothers. After identifying two pilot project villages - Haurpanggung and Jayaraga - PDNA began the process of establishing a frontline of volunteers to assist pregnant women at the grassroots level.

Capacity building for the SAKINA RAPIH team in these two villages began with training in October of 2021. The training was attended by eleven volunteers who would later be divided between the two piloting villages. During the training, the construction of the volunteers' thinking began to be formed. They are required to be able to read the situation, identify emergency problems of pregnant women, mothers giving birth, and newborns before it is too late, and map potential high risks and offer solutions and

prevention. In addition, they are also required to be able to provide input and counseling to families who have pregnant women, mothers giving birth, and newborns.

Various cross-sectoral organizations also played a role in supporting the initial steps of the volunteer pregnant mother companions. The head of the Community Health Center in the Tarogong Kidul Sub-districts, for example, provided counseling on health issues in the community and family. A representative of the IBI Foundation of Garut (Association of Midwives) delivered materials on maintaining pregnancy and childbirth for mothers, as well as how to use maternal and child health guidebooks as a communication medium to educate the community.

After the eleven SAKINA RAPIH volunteers dispersed to their respective neighborhoods and began assisting pregnant women in their areas, a positive impact began to be felt among the community.

"After the formation of SAKINA RAPIH, pregnant women in our neighborhood are more easily detected. They are recorded so they are easy to reach," said Sutinah, one of the SAKINA RAPIH volunteers.

"Pregnant women also feel helped by the counseling and periodic visits that we provide. They know that pregnancy and birth need careful planning."

Although the positive impact was obvious, the presence of the volunteers also uncovered issues that had been increasing MMR and IMR in the two piloting villages.

In response to these scattered findings that began to emerge, PDNA Garut conducted a social accountability measurement between communities and service providers through the Community Score Card, a citizen perception survey completed jointly by both communities and service providers. The hope is that this assessment can capture what maternal and child health services at health facilities look like in the eyes of the community.

Some of the issues were in line with the problems mapped at the outset - such as the lack of education on maternal and child health, so that families were not vigilant and prioritized the safety preparedness of pregnant women, mothers giving birth, and newborns. But there were other factors that emerged. People in both villages do not seem to consider maternal and newborn health issues important. Residents, especially men and young people, do not know that this information is important for them to have and master.

Therefore, the SAKINA RAPIH program cannot be dissolved just because the PDNA Garut piloting period is over. Together with FAASIH, the Garut PDNA team formulated a policy brief related to maternal and newborn health in Garut District. This document was then submitted and discussed with the Regent of Garut, Rudi Gunawan, in a meeting on March 21, 2022. Receiving a good response, the Regent directed PDNA Garut to meet with the Deputy Regent of Garut and related agencies to align the Garut PDNA program with the

government program to alleviate the high MMR and IMR.



At a meeting with the Deputy Regent in October 2022, together with representatives of the District Health Office, the hard work of SAKINA RAPIH and PDNA Garut volunteers was highly appreciated. The Garut Government through the District Health Office committed to supporting the implementation of SAKINA RAPIH as long

as the Garut PDNA program with MADANI is still running.

Then, after an evaluation of the results, the District Health Office will adopt the SAKINA RAPIH program and begin to spread it to hundreds of other villages. Even after the MADANI program ends, the village maternal and child health volunteer program will be adopted by the government and fully supported with funding from the Regional Budget (APBD).

The road to reducing MMR and IMR in the district of Garut is still long. However, with the definite steps that have been started by SAKINA RAPIH volunteers, as well as long-term support from the government, we hope that Garut can become a safer home for mothers and the next generation.

Perangkat Daerah Nasyyiatul 'Aisyiyah Garut

pdna.garut@gmail.com

putrigibran78@gmail.com



In Sintang, Spatial Planning is a Condition for a Bright Future

Perkumpulan Swandiri Inisiatif Sintang

There is a seemingly trivial issue in the district of Sintang, West Kalimantan, but it could have a large impact. Of the 391 villages in the district, only 11 have regulations on their boundaries.



At first glance, this does not sound urgent. However, without village boundaries, neither local governments nor villages are able to adequately plan their own development or respond swiftly to environmental challenges. Mapping the potential of the village and the needs of the population, mitigating disasters, and even preventing land conflicts can be done only if each village has a good mapping scheme and village planning. If

this scheme is only owned by a handful of villages in Sintang, development will take place in overlapping regions which will be prone to conflicts of interest.



One of the factors that makes villages in Sintang tend to be slow in mapping and determining village boundaries is the lack of community involvement. Because of the neglect and apathy of various parties, many villages do not even have a spatial planning mechanism. Therefore, there needs to be community involvement and capacity building related to the importance of village boundary confirmation, technical implementation,

spatial planning, and the utilization of this information to empower the community. Through the USAID MADANI program, Swandiri Inisiatif Sintang (SIS) initiated a natural resource-based village spatial planning program in two villages in Sintang. In the SIS mapping model, the community is expected to actively participate in the preparation, utilization, and control of spatial utilization. The whole process is also expected to take place with good governance values such as transparency, participation, accountability, and coordination.

Because the village government is the spearhead of state services to its citizens in the village, this good governance certainly starts with opening roads to the village government.



SIS began the implementation of this activity by conducting a series of focus group discussion meetings to mobilize participation between stakeholders and identify problems or challenges faced in the process of affirming village boundaries. Apart from being attended by government organizations such as the Regional Agency for Development Planning (BAPPEDA), this series of

meetings was also attended by the Community Empowerment and Village Government Office and the Spatial Planning and Land Office. In addition, SIS also conducted private hearings with various parties to further sharpen the problem mapping.

One of the key inputs obtained in this process was regarding the selection of villages for the intervention. According to the Office of Spatial Planning and Land, SIS is recommended to intervene in villages that have not been included in the Detailed Land Use Plan (RDTR) prepared by the District government. Because they are not even in the RDTR, they are more vulnerable to being "forgotten" in the spatial planning process at a more macro level.

SIS was facilitated by the Sintang sub-district head to meet with village heads throughout the Sintang sub-district to determine which intervention villages were appropriate. From these discussions, SIS clustered the villages in Sintang based on the extent of mapping that had been carried out independently in each village.

Through this discussion, it was agreed that the first village to be intervened was Mertiguna village. After discussions with the village heads, an interesting case was found in the village of Mertiguna: the village had actually confirmed the boundary stakes, but the results had not been formalized because the village boundary report had not been approved. This plan was well received by the Mertiguna village government. In addition to Mertiguna, Tebing Raya village has also emerged as one of the other villages open to working with SIS

and MADANI. Prior to the presence of SIS, Tebing Raya had already taken the coordinate points of the village boundary and reached an agreement with other villages about its boundaries. But uniquely, none of these agreements had been written down. The data had to be verified again in the field with the help of GPS, while the Tebing Raya government prepared inter-village deliberation documents showing that other villages had agreed to the new division of territory.

Fortunately, this process was fully supported by the village head of Tebing Raya, Hardiman. *"I am optimistic that with SIS support, this mapping can be completed quickly,"* he said. In July 2022, the SIS team together with representatives of neighboring villages reviewed five village boundary coordinates that needed to be re-verified before facilitating an inter-village agreement.

In addition to establishing the village space, SIS also began to improve the welfare of the community within the village itself. Along with mapping, SIS collaborated with the multi-stakeholder CSO forum in Sintang, namely the Kapuas Raya Stakeholder Learning Forum (FORSTAR) that prepared a Community Score Card (CSC) to measure the quality of

public services received by village communities so far. The measurement tool can assess how well the utilization of village information from various factors, such as the availability of village information, access to village information, to the utilization of village information for the community.

Although the CSC has not been implemented for long, it has already shown interesting insights into the conditions in each intervention village. In Tebing Raya, for example, people often complain about village services using conventional mechanisms - where they have to meet village government officials in person or physically visit the village office. Tebing Raya itself has begun to design better quality services, but the issue of physical meetings is still a common problem because there is no internet access in the village or budget to circumvent this.

SIS interventions have only started in two villages. But with strong documentation and regular communication between the village networks we have opened, knowledge transfer is going well. SIS hopes to be able to continue assisting other villages in Sintang Sub-district, although it must be done slowly and gradually.

Perkumpulan Swandiri Inisiatif Sintang

swandirisintang@gmail.com

ireng469@gmail.com



Community Score Card on Handling Maternal and Newborn Emergencies in Health Services in Lebak

PPSW Pasoendan Digdaya Lebak Foundation

As part of the effort to improve health services, usually at public service locations such as the Community Health Center or *Puskesmas*, complaint handling mechanisms are provided, either in the form of complaint boxes or information on telephone numbers that can be contacted for complaints. However, these efforts are unidirectional and often ineffective. Pusat Pengembangan Sumberdaya Wanita Pasoendan Digdaya (PPSW), a civil society organization in the district of Lebak, Banten, tried to address this challenge.

Through the USAID MADANI Program, PPSW took a different approach in assessing the competency of health services in the region, particularly maternal and newborn emergency services. PPSW first established a multi-stakeholder forum called *Simpul Belajar SIGMA*, consisting of CSOs and other maternal and child health (MCH)

stakeholders in Lebak. PPSW and SIGMA then assisted wider stakeholders to determine two pilot village locations, namely Cisimeut and Cisimeut Raya in Leuwidamar Sub-district. In the two pilot villages, a task force to assist with MCH issues was also formed, called the MCH Task Force (SATGAS). This task force consists of community elements in each village with an interest in MCH issues.

And then the Community Score Card (CSC) Program was launched in both villages. CSC is different from the usual complaint method. The difference lies in its two-way approach, bringing together both the party assessing the service and the party receiving the service assessment. In this case, the community receiving health services and the health service provider (*Puskesmas*). Both parties first agree together on the indicators of service achievement (maternal and newborn emergencies) that will be assessed. With

the assistance of PPSW and SIGMA, they agreed on 13 indicators covering aspects of services ranging from service procedures and requirements, service staff competence, service costs, and service infrastructure conditions. Each indicator was rated using a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 means very poor and 4 means very good.



The first meeting with the health center serving the two villages, Puskesmas Cisimeut, resulted in the highest score, 4, for requirements and costs and 1 for safety. The next meeting with community members gave a score of 4 for service requirements, and a score of 2 for staff competence and safety. The final meeting in the form of a focus group discussion involving both parties finally agreed on the highest score of 4 for the service requirements aspect, and the lowest score of 1 for the security aspect. As for other aspects related to staff competence and

infrastructure, the scores varied between 2 and 3. PPSW then formulated the priority recommendations for service improvement, namely prioritizing the aspects of Information Disclosure, Officer Competence, Comfort and Security, Accountability and Facilities and Infrastructure.



The series of activities ended with the presentation of the results of activities to all stakeholders of MCH issues in Lebak District. The results of this piloting activity will be replicated in 8 other villages as good practices in implementing MCH service improvement programs. Ibu. Virgojanti, head of the Lebak Regional Research and Development Planning Agency (Bapelitbangda), said that if there are people who have innovative ideas aimed at participating in the promotion of the development of Lebak, Bapelitbangda invites them to come and share them in an open communication space. He also advised that CSOs that have joined SIGMA can be an example for other CSOs in the Lebak area. *"To the Regional Apparatus Agencies to open communication space and be open in delivering information to program implementers because it can help accelerate development in Lebak,"* he said.

The CSC program in Lebak is starting to bear fruit. Cisimeut *Puskesmas* began to make improvements. From the aspect of officer competence, there is a plan for staff to learn about banking services. In terms of information disclosure, currently the *Puskesmas* has made an information board containing the amount of fees for each type of service in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The picket list of health service officers has also been posted. And in terms of facilities

and infrastructure, the pharmacy has been relocated to a place with faster and easier access.

The District Health Office also supports through a plan to improve the competence of officers with emergency drills and clinic assistance. Hopefully with the passage of time, more follow-up actions will be taken to realize adequate MCH services in Lebak.

PPSW - Lebak

pasoendan@ppsw.or.id

endang_yayuk@yahoo.com

www.pasoendan.ppsw.or.id



Through Kampung Edukasi in Sambas, Residents Get Involved Again in Village Development

Lembaga Pengembangan Masyarakat Pedesaan (GAPEMASDA), Sambas

In implementing community development, the village government must prepare a village development plan based on the needs and aspirations of the community. However, in reality, not all community groups have been involved in the development planning process.

Based on a survey conducted by the Lembaga Pengembangan Masyarakat Pedesaan (Sambas Community Development Organization or GAPEMASDA) in the district of Sambas, West Kalimantan, there are still many community groups that have not been involved in development planning activities. Some community groups that are involved are less vocal and do not

understand the development planning process, so the needs of these community groups are not included in the development planning list.

In fact, village development is not only the responsibility of the village government and its citizens, but all stakeholders both at the regional and central levels. Therefore, a work synergy based on a shared commitment is needed to harmonize understanding in developing villages. In addition, the village fund budget must be allocated evenly and equitably. Starting from the planning process, the village government must involve all community groups so that all

aspirations and input from the community are heard.

Based on the above problems, GAPEMASDA, as one of the institutions that focuses on rural development through the USAID MADANI Program initiated the “Inclusive Budget Education and Literacy Village” program (*Kampung Edukasi dan Literasi Anggaran Inklusif* or KADIN). This is in line with GAPEMASDA's thematic issue in the USAID MADANI program, namely the synergy of village fund budget governance that is able to facilitate the interests of all groups in society.



The KADIN program is a public campaign program for inclusive budgeting and raising awareness of parties related to good budget governance. This program will function as a social control and concern of the community towards local government. This activity is filled with a series of capacity building related to the thematic issues carried with the aim that the community increasingly understands its role in the planning stages of the development planning deliberation (*Musrenbang*) to the accountability stage.

The KADIN program was implemented in three villages, namely Sepantai in Sejangkung sub-district with the status of

a developing village representing a transmigration village; Lubuk Dagang in Sambas sub-district with the status of a developed village representing the closest village to the district capital; and Sejiram in Tebas sub-district with the status of an independent village representing a national achievement village.

This activity involves all stakeholders and prioritizes inclusiveness. As a program actor, GAPEMASDA applies Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) standards in every activity implementation such as the formation of Village Community Empowerment Cadres (KPMK). GESI pays special attention to gender equality and the inclusion of marginalized groups including people with disabilities.

Both the community and the government are very appreciative of the KADIN program. The community has become more educated about their role in development. *"We feel that this activity will have a positive impact, especially in helping us understand our role in the development process starting from planning to accountability,"* said Nurhayati, one of the KADIN participants.

On the other hand, the government also increasingly understands the importance of representation of each community group in the *Musrenbang* process so that each group can convey the aspirations they need. *"I really appreciate GAPEMASDA coming to our village to strengthen the capacity of community groups in educating them about their role in Musrenbang through this KADIN program,"* said

Sepantai Village Secretary Turiyono. *"It is hoped that the community will understand more about the process in the Musrenbang and they can convey what their needs are."*

This program is expected to increase the understanding of all parties regarding the importance of synergy between regulation and budgeting, in order to

accelerate development at the village level and higher levels. It is GAPEMASDA's hope that, with the support of the local government, universities, the private sector, State-Owned Enterprises (BUMD and BUMN) and the network of civil society organizations, the "KADIN" program and activities can be successful and replicated to other villages in Sambas.

GAPEMASDA - Sambas

gapemasda@ymail.com

Dhiens27@gmail.com



Healthy Youth Village, an Effort to Prevent Child Marriage in Jember

Lembaga Gerakan Peduli Perempuan (LGPP) Jember

Child marriage continues to be a problem in the district of Jember, East Java. In 2020, the Jember's Ministry of Religious Affairs recorded at least 600 marriages involving girls under 19 years old and 400 marriages involving boys under 19 years old. Entering 2021, the number of child marriages increased dramatically. It was recorded that the Jember Religious Court approved 1400 marriage dispensations for children, up from 1000 cases in 2020. In fact, the law stipulates that such dispensations can only be granted for very urgent reasons accompanied by adequate evidence.

So what is the "very urgent reason" that causes thousands of parents in Jember to allow their children to marry early?

Based on observations by the Women's Care Movement Institute (LGPP) as a partner of the USAID MADANI Program,

the COVID-19 pandemic has changed parents' perceptions of their children's relationships. The absence of teaching and learning activities at school has made parents increasingly worried that their children will fall into promiscuity. In the end, they are married off prematurely because their parents feel that marrying young is better than them being "naughty" or engaging in risky sexual behavior.



The impact is certainly troubling. Marriage at an early age risks increasing the rate of domestic violence and divorce due to the lack of emotional and financial stability of the couple. Pregnancy at too young an age can also have a negative impact on reproductive health, and increase the risk of maternal or infant mortality.

In response to this issue, the local government of Jember has actually conducted various socializations related to the dangers of risky sexual behavior, which allegedly triggered the high rate of child marriage. In addition, the local government has also conducted socialization on the risks of early marriage to adolescent health. These actions are carried out with the Education Office, Health Office, and Religious Court and target high schools, junior high schools, and villages in remote areas of Jember.

To give another dimension to the effort to reduce the number of early marriages, LGPP together with the multi-stakeholder *Forum Jember Sehat* (FORJES) initiated *Kampung Remaja Sehat* ("Healthy Youth Neighborhood) or also known as *Posyandu Remaja* (Youth Integrated Health Post). The program started in Summersari Sub-district, specifically in the villages of Wirolegi and Karangrejo. The selection of these two villages is not without reason - according to data from the Jember Religious Court, these two areas are the largest contributors to the number of early marriages in all of Jember.

The activities focused on awareness campaigns and educating adolescents and other stakeholders in the two villages to

not marry under after 19 years of age. In addition, local adolescents were given an understanding of adolescent reproductive health by local midwives and health workers. The hope of this activity is that adolescents are more aware of the importance of knowing and understanding the importance of adolescent reproductive health. In addition, adolescents are increasingly aware that marriage under 19 years old has many risks, so it is hoped that they will not do it, and the output can reduce maternal and infant mortality in Summersari Sub-district in particular and Jember in general.

The activities of *Kampung Remaja Sehat* have begun to bear fruit. In Karangrejo, there were three teenagers who changed their minds and continued their education to college level. This happened because they were inspired by advocacy from fellow Jember University students who were interning at LGPP. The teenagers were initially hesitant to go to college because of the cost, but after being given assistance and informed of various scholarship opportunities, they kept going. The *Kampung Remaja Sehat* program is also used as a mainstay program by Summersari Sub-district and Summersari Health Center, and is currently included in a national level competition on the synergy of government institutions. "I hope this activity can advance the youth in our village," said Mrs. Rohimatus, Neighborhood Head in Pelindu, Karangrejo. "With a healthy youth village, teenagers can always be active in

community activities and contribute positively," she continued.

There is certainly a long way to go. Parents need to continue to provide positive support for their children in terms of education and career, so that their opportunities for a bright future are not jeopardized by the urge to marry early. On

the other hand, local governments should also be encouraged to issue district head circulars on limiting the age of marriage, and support the organization of healthy youth villages in more and more villages.

Little by little, the problem of child marriage in Jember will be alleviated.

LGPP Jember

gppjember2000@gmail.com

<https://gppjember.blogspot.com>



Returning Village Businesses to Their People: Stories from Sumenep

Lembaga Kajian dan Pengembangan Sumberdaya Manusia Nahdlatul Ulama (Lakpesdam) NU Sumenep

The welfare of the community remains a question mark in the district of Sumenep, located on the eastern tip of Madura island in the provinces of East Java. Based on data from the Central Bureau of Statistics in 2021, Sumenep district has the third highest percentage of poor people in the entire East Java province. Around 21 per cent of the Sumenep population - more than 200,000 people - live below the poverty line.

Various factors influence the high poverty rate in Sumenep. The population and human resources in Sumenep continue to increase, but jobs remain few. As a result, the unemployment rate is increasing.

In fact, the government has taken steps to encourage economic growth in areas such as Sumenep. Law 6/2014 on Villages, for example, is an effort to realize community sovereignty by developing the potential in

the village according to the needs of the community itself. One of them is to regulate the presence of Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDES) as business entities whose capital is wholly or mostly owned by the village.

On paper, the Sumenep District Government has provided support to BUMDES. The budget allocation, for example, has been secured by policy through Regent Regulation (Perbup) No. 38/2019. Again, on paper the results are encouraging: of the 334 villages in Sumenep, 276 villages have formed BUMDES and received capital participation. Unfortunately, these BUMDES have not been fully successful in driving the village economy and improving the welfare of villagers.

To respond to this issue, the Institute for the Study and Development of Human Resources of Nahdlatul Ulama (Lakpesdam NU), through the USAID MADANI Program, established the MADANI Community Forum Sumenep (MMS Forum), which consists of members from civil society organizations, university students, media institutions, and NU institutions themselves.



The MMS Forum complements the work of local and village governments in promoting BUMDES performance. The government provides technical guidance and resource and policy support, while the MMS Forum organizes activities such as *Halaqah* (community townhall meetings) to raise awareness of the community, encourage participation in the supervision and management of BUMDES, and encourage the establishment of BUMDES forums at the village level.

The work of the MMS Forum began by identifying problems in three piloting villages: Talaga in Ganding Sub-district, Lenteng Timur in Lenteng Sub-district, and Rubaru in Rubaru Sub-district. Problem identification was carried out through the Community Score Card (CSC) method by conducting a survey of residents' perceptions in March 2021, on the causes

of the stalled work of BUMDES in their respective areas.

According to Lakpesdam NU's observations as well as the recognition of residents who participated in the survey, on average the management of BUMDES is still controlled only by certain parties. The people are mostly distant from the benefits provided by BUMDES, and even tend to be indifferent to BUMDES activities, as there is a perception that BUMDES are not well managed and can only be accessed by people close to the village government.

Moving on from the survey results, Forum MMS moved in two directions. First, the MMS Forum mobilized villagers and village governments in the three piloting villages to agree on a BUMDES edict that stipulates that BUMDES should be managed based on the needs and conditions of each area. And secondly, the Forum coordinated with the Technical Team of the Sumenep Government and related agencies such as the Sumenep Community and Village Empowerment Office (Dinas PMD), Regional Secretary, Regional Planning and Development Agency (Bappeda), and others.

The community aspirations contained in the BUMDES edict were finally accepted by the local government through a meeting attended by the Regional Secretary of Sumenep District, Ir. Rasiyadi, in August 2021. Work in the field became smoother after in October 2021, the Head of the Economic Business Empowerment and Development Division at the PMD Office agreed that technical costs must be included in the village budget (APBDes) starting in 2022.

Meanwhile, in the piloting villages, the cooperation between the community, the BUMDES, and the local government is running more smoothly. East Lenteng is one of the villages that showed rapid development. Rather than starting a new business from scratch, villagers there agreed to maximize existing BUMDES businesses that had not been managed effectively. Among these are catfish farming and mattress repair businesses. One of the key notes from the villagers was to open access to management as wide as possible: especially for the poor, women and the disabled. After the management of the BUMDES is more open to the community, an analysis is conducted on the selection of businesses that are more in line with the potential of the village, so that the impact of the BUMDES on welfare is more pronounced.

"Not a few residents even said that this BUMDES facilitates the process of food security in the village", said Muzanni, one of the facilitators from Forum MMS. *"Especially because the resources are managed together, and there is real cooperation between BUMDES administrators and community groups in Lenteng Timur Village".*

It will take more time to see the impact of these BUMDES on the economy of the community in the medium and long term. However, the increasing enthusiasm of residents for BUMDES and the vibrant businesses in the three piloting villages have attracted the attention of the Sumenep local government.

In November 2021, Lakpesdam NU Sumenep met with the Regent of

Sumenep, Ahmad Fauzi. In that brief conversation, the Regent welcomed Lakpesdam NU's collaboration with the government to encourage BUMDES. *"I got a lot of information from the Regional Secretary and related Regional Apparatus Organizations about the MADANI program in Sumenep District,"* he said. *"The improvement of BUMDES like this is indeed very relevant to the regional development agenda".*



One of the challenges faced in developing BUMDES in Sumenep is the availability and capacity of human resource managers. Therefore, the Regent appreciates this pilot collaboration and hopes this activity can be replicated more widely. *"I also want to oversee the support of relevant DPOs, especially the PMD Office, Bappeda, and the National Unity and Political Agency (Bakesbangpol) so that this collaboration with CSOs runs effectively,"* he continued.

Continuing the Regent's mandate, Lakpesdam NU together with the MMS Forum and the Sumenep District Technical Team held a workshop at the PMD Office, Sumenep. *"This workshop is meaningful in realizing the economic empowerment of the people who have been hit by the pandemic for the past two years,"* said Didik Wahyudi, Assistant for Government

and People's Welfare from the Sumenep District Secretariat. *"This activity inspires us in our work".*

The head of the Sumenep PMD Office, Anwar Syahroni Yusuf, also appreciated the good work of Lakpesdam NU for BUMDES. *"I also follow its development, where the learning and good practices in it will be applied to the BUMDES improvement program in the future,"* he said. *"I personally express my gratitude, because my friends from Lakpesdam NU and the MMS Forum have conveyed an overview of the results of this pilot. The points have been noted, especially as planning material with the local government,"* he continued.

In the short term, the PMD Office as part of the District Technical Team is ready to

support joint monitoring. In the long term, recommendations from the MMS Forum will be used for discussion and decision-making with Bappeda and the local government. The MMS Forum can also serve as a forum for shared learning and action, and mediate communication between the community and the local government and private sector.

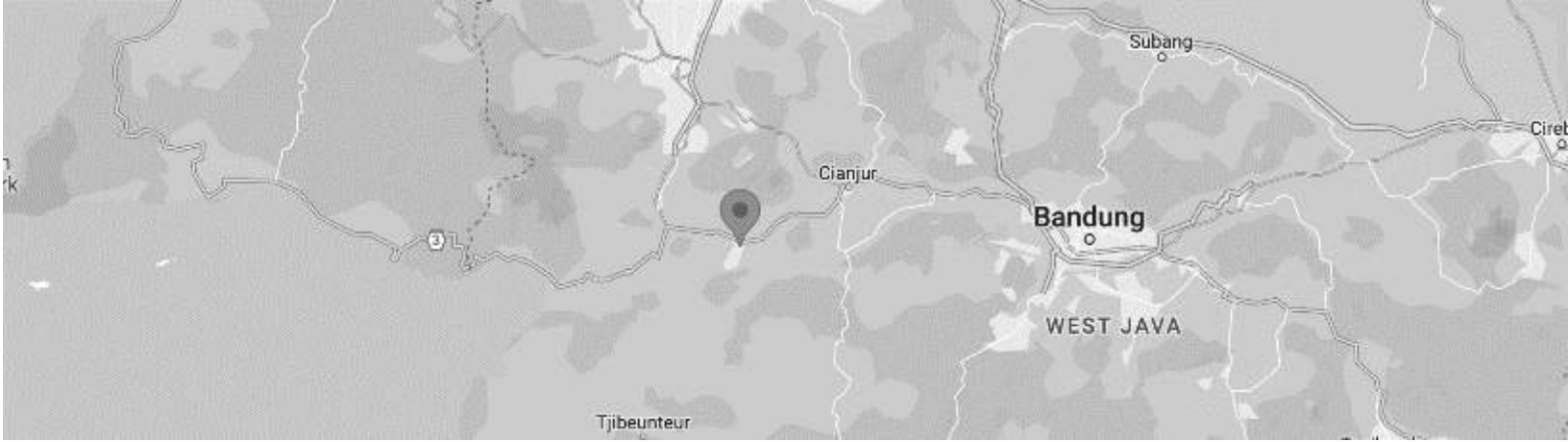
In the two years of MADANI's work in Sumenep, in addition to strengthening the capacity of partner organizations, there have been changes in the relationship between CSOs and the government. Joint activities indicate trust, intimacy and harmony. Hopefully, the collaboration between these parties will continue, and can realize BUMDES that really work for their communities.

Lakpesdam NU - Sumenep

lakpesdamsumenep20@gmail.com

ekoyanto.215@gmail.com

www.nahdliyyin.id



School-based Integrated Health Service for Youths (Posyandu Remaja): Stories from Sukabumi

Saba Desa, district of Sukabumi

The Integrated Health Post (Posyandu) is a local solution to provide comprehensive health services for residents, including services for young people, through Youth Posyandu. In Sukabumi, West Java, Yayasan Saba Desa has been working to revitalize Youth Posyandu services in three pilot villages in the district of Sukabumi, West Java. This has been undertaken in partnership with USAID’s MADANI program.

Before starting the process of raising the Youth Posyandu in 2021, Saba Desa was mostly engaged in community empowerment issues and had never specifically engaged in health issues. But, fortunately, Saba Desa joined *Simpul*

Belajar OMS Sukabumi (SIMPONI), a coalition of civil society organizations



partners who network together to advocate for health and youth issues. SIMPONI together with local government representatives conducted an educational roadshow on reproductive health, especially to reduce the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), one of which is due to the

practice of early marriage. The regular talk show titled "*Diary SIMPONI*" was also supported and attended by government partners such as the Sukabumi District Health Office, the Population Control and Family Planning Office (DPPKB), and the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office (DP3A).

In just a few months, SIMPONI Diary has reached 1,000 people from 25 locations - mostly youth communities, junior high schools, and high schools. They are mostly outside of the three villages whose Posyandu Remajajaj helped SIMPONI to activate in 2021.

One of the schools that stood out was At-Tairisiyah Integrated Islamic High School, located in Caringin Sub-district, Sukabumi. The teachers and the principal were impressed by the enthusiasm of the students when they received materials from Saba Desa and the Institute for Social and Religious Research (LENSA) on healthy generation and the dangers of child marriage. At the end of the event, the students even took the initiative to make a statement that they would stop the practice of child marriage and become a healthy and accomplished young generation. They stamped their hands on a long cloth using wall paint.

After the event, the principal and teachers expressed their hope that Saba Desa could provide education regularly at At-Tairisiyah. Moreover, Caringin sub-district

is not among the three early intervention areas that have experienced the presence of the Youth Posyandu. Based on further discussions between Saba Desa and the school, a new idea emerged: enhancing the role and function of the School Health Unit (UKS) into a school-based Youth Posyandu.

The school-based Youth Posyandu was established as one of the strategies to expand the use of the MADANI program approach on thematic issues. Saba Desa saw the opportunity that the presence of Youth Posyandu in schools would be able to target adolescents more broadly. The students in the school come from various villages at once, and teenagers tend to have more free time and space to move around when at school. In addition, because Youth Posyandu is integrated into the School Health Unit, students will gain extra knowledge and skills beyond what they have learned in the classroom.

Saba Desa's move was welcomed by stakeholders at the school. Positive responses were also received from the Branch Office of the West Java Provincial Education Office, the Village Government,



and also the Caringin Health Center, which is the service provider in the area.

Saba Desa then conducted a focus group discussion with the school, Village Government, and Puskesmas. The FGD focused on socializing the concept of combining Youth Posyandu with the School Health Unit. Furthermore, a division of roles and functions between Saba Desa and the four agencies was agreed upon. The results of the FGD were then submitted to the District Health Office and also informed to the District



Youth Posyandu Intervention
Collaboration Team Sukabumi.

"Character building and increasing student competence is not enough just through extracurricular activities," said the Principal of SMA IT AT-Taisiriyah, Mr. Hasbu Burhanudin. "The Youth Posyandu can provide health education for students, prepare children to be more planned in the future, and students can mobilize friends to live healthy in their environment. Our students can also learn organization, because teenagers are future leaders and future generations for our country".

This initiative was also welcomed by the Sukabumi District Health Office. In the FGD, they admitted that adolescents have been difficult to reach for services at the village level because the service schedule always clashes with the schedule of teaching and learning activities at school. So, if the intervention can be done through the Youth Posyandu in schools, various reproductive health problems faced by adolescents can be directly addressed early on.

Unexpectedly, the District Health Office agreed to issue a Decree of the Head of the Health Office, appointing At-Taisiriyah High School as a pilot school for the integration of the Youth Posyandu concept with the Youth Health Unit. The beneficiaries, or service users are junior and senior high school students in At Taisiriyah Foundation. With the issuance of this decree, the collaborative pilot activities of the Youth Posyandu with the Youth Health Unit are directly supervised and supported by the government.

The school-based Youth Posyandu was inaugurated on July 20, 2022 in a ceremony attended by all representatives of At-Taisiriyah IT High School, Caringin Health Center, Cijengkol Village Government, West Java Provincial Education Office, Sukabumi District Health Office, and even Sukabumi Regent.

In his speech, Sukabumi Regent, Drs. Marwan Hamami, saw the pilot as a

brilliant idea for the future of Sukabumi's youth. *"This program must succeed positively for adolescent health,"* he said. *"Posyandu Remaja was formed not because of external pressure, but from our need to reduce MMR and IMR with collaboration from all elements. We must work together for the health of adolescents and society".*

Throughout August 2022, school-based Youth Posyandu administrators began receiving training by the Caringin Health

Sabadesa - Sukabumi District
yayasansabadesa@gmail.com
bayualhafs44@gmail.com
<https://sabadesa.id/>

Center with additional assistance from Saba Desa.

It is targeted that by the end of September 2022, the School-Based Youth Posyandu will start receiving its first clients. If this latest collaboration is successful, it is not impossible that the school-based adolescent posyandu model at At-Taisiriyah IT High School can be replicated in other schools in Sukabumi, and even in other regions in Indonesia.



Maternal and Newborn Health Services Situation in Pangkep

Lembaga Demokrasi Celebes (LEKRAC) Pangkep

The district of Pangkajene and Islands, commonly abbreviated as Pangkep, in South Sulawesi, features challenging geography. With an area of more than 12,000 square kilometers, the land area (consisting of lowland and mountainous areas) is only about 900 square kilometers. The remaining 11,000 square kilometers are oceanic, housing around 50 small and remote islands that fall within the administrative area of Pangkep.

Lembaga Demokrasi Celebes (Lekrac or the Celebes Democracy Institute) is a civil society organization partner for the USAID MADANI Program, fights for the issue of maternal, newborn, and child health (MCH) in Pangkep. There is a sad story behind the selection of this issue, as told by an honorary teacher who had served on one of the remote islands there for eight years.

Matala'ang Island, Sabalana Village, Liukang Tangaya Sub-district is one of the

outermost islands in Pangkep. It takes approximately 18 hours to reach the island by boat, or up to 22 hours if the weather is bad. The long distance and poor telecommunication network often cause anxiety.

With a population of around 3,850 people and 1,039 households, there is only one Auxiliary Community Health Center (Pustu) with only a single midwife on this 12 square kilometer island. This situation is truly sad. The island is relatively densely populated, but only has one health facility. Patients often have to be referred to hospitals in Makassar or to hospital locations with closer access, even though they are in different provinces, namely in Sumbawa, West Nusa Tenggara.

Midwives on the island are rarely on site. Many midwives are only able to stay for two to three months. The rest, if they stay for a longer time, are mostly on land so that health service activities are

sometimes carried out by *sanro pammana* (traditional birth attendants).

Due to the lack of health workers, many pregnant women do not have regular



check-ups and babies are not delivered. In fact, there was once an incident where a pregnant woman had to travel to Sumbawa to give birth, even though she was already bleeding. The 12-hour journey across the open sea was the mother's fate. The baby could no longer be saved, and not long after, the mother also died.

Lekrac, through the MADANI Program, is slowly revealing the background of the situation that is a factor in the weakness of health services in Pangkep. The Head of the Pangkep District Health Office, Hj Herlina SSi Apt MKes agrees that the geographical location of Pangkep, which includes a number of outer islands closer to Sumbawa Island, Bali, and Kalimantan, is a challenge in itself.

Lekrac identified five factors that hinder health services. *First*, gaps in access to referrals and delays in handling referrals. *Second*, transportation access to health services is limited for residents in the mountains and islands. *Third*, the distribution of health workers is uneven both in terms of quantity and quality. *Fourth*, the labor assistance system is not

running optimally in remote areas. *Fifth*, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, there is a fear of residents doing health checks for fear of contracting the virus.

"So, this is the problem, officers who will be assigned to the island can already think and imagine the situation that will be faced so that they can not feel at home," said Mrs. Herlina further.

At the end of November 2021, the Lekrac Program Team conducted an assessment of maternal, newborn and child health issues (MCH) in Mattiro Bulu Village, Liukang Tupabbiring Utara Sub-district. This activity was conducted after the Regional Development Planning, Research and Development Agency (Bappelitbangda) and the Pangkep District Health Office challenged the results from other villages in the archipelago for comparison.

This challenge arose considering that Lekrac's intervention area in the MADANI Program is only on the mainland, namely in Kabba and Panaikang villages in Minasatene Sub-district. MCH assessments in these two villages have been carried out previously and to complete comparative data as well as to answer about Bappelitbangda and Dinkes, the Program Team crowdsourced an assessment of one of the village's islands.

The village of Mattiro Bulu consists of a single island called Karanrang which is inhabited by 3,200 people. Health facilities are only available at the Pustu, and if they want to access Puskesmas services, they have to cross to Sabutung Island in Mattiro Kanja Village, which is the capital

of Liukang Tupabbirring Utara Sub-district and is about 45 minutes away by outboard speed-boat called a *jolloro*.

The results of the assessment on Karanrang Island showed that there are



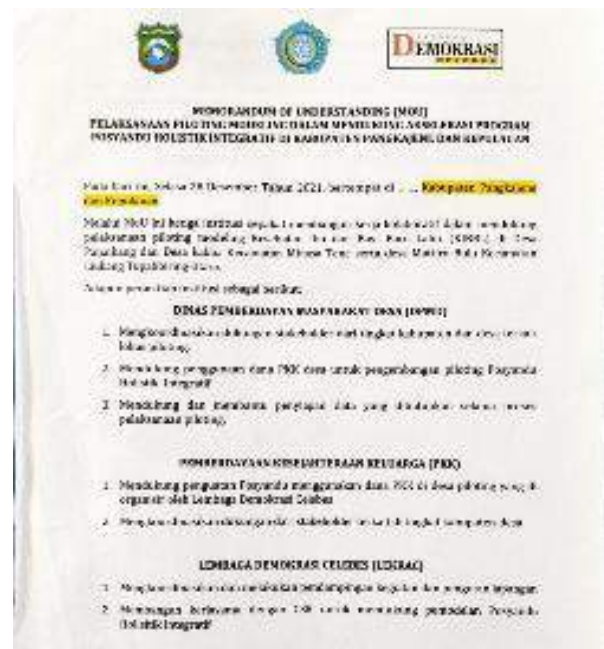
five civil servants at the Pustu, consisting of one midwife, two administrative staff, and the rest are nurses. Hj Irma HB, a midwife at the Pustu, said that it is very overwhelming if there is only one midwife.

"We admit that our services have been far from optimal. However, with our limitations, everything is done even though we have to put aside administrative matters on land, which is also an obstacle on Karanrang Island for health workers regarding clear lodging," he said.

The head of the Sabutung Health Center at that time, Mr. Rusdi, revealed data regarding the death of pregnant women in 2020 and in 2021 there were also children who died. *"Regarding the rules, there are indeed. However, the*

implementation at the bottom is still not well coordinated, our officers are not full," he said.

She went on to explain the solutions that can be taken to address the existing conditions, recruiting islanders to help work at the Puskesmas. Ms. Harmati also added the impact of marrying young which has an effect on the condition of MCH and can even have an impact on stunting. *"Why does this stunting occur, because of the mother's own lifestyle behavior when pregnant, breastfeeding they use formula milk, even though the baby is only a week old,"* she said.



When asked why mothers use formula milk, the reasons vary, the child does not want it, even though mothers breastfeeding children ideally use breast milk from the age of 0 to 6 months without any mixture. Rusdi further explained that education about breastfeeding has become an obligation of officers. *"We as health workers have*

conducted socialization so far regarding education to pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. However, it takes a long time for that awareness to grow," he explained.

As a result of the assessment on Kararanrang Island, through the Family Welfare Empowerment and the Village Community Empowerment Office, an MoU was signed to replicate the piloting in Mattiro Bulu village and to continuously

reach 65 villages in Pangkep in the islands, mainland and mountainous areas.

Escorting this MoU is also on LP Lekrac's agenda with USAID MADANI program elements in Pangkep such as the MABACA Learning Forum. This is certainly encouraging news. With collaboration between the government, civil society organizations, and citizens themselves, positive changes to the condition of MCH in Pangkep can occur.

LEKRAC - Pangkep District
yasmibsulawesi@gmail.com
rosniatyazis@gmail.com
www.yasmib.org



Sapa Institute

Pusat Pendidikan, Informasi dan Komunikasi Perempuan

Innovations for Maternal and Child Health in the District of Bandung

Sapa Institute Bandung

Indonesia is a country that still has a high maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR). The high MMR/IMR is caused by many factors, including the lack of access to health care facilities. Many women are unable to have their pregnancies checked at the health center due to the long distance to travel. So they have to spend money on transportation costs. In the end, pregnant women prefer the services provided by village midwives at village-based Posyandu and Polindes, which are not far from home, although the facilities are inadequate.



Even if pregnant women manage to access these health services, they are often faced with limited services. The research also revealed that pregnant

women did not receive full prenatal check-up services. The only services provided were height and weight checks, blood pressure checks and complaints. And given the large number of pregnant women and toddlers accessing the services, the consultation time for pregnant women is limited.

Ideally, a pregnancy check-up should include many things, including weighing and measuring height, measuring blood pressure, measuring upper arm circumference, measuring the height of the top of the uterus, determining tetanus immunization status and giving tetanus immunization according to immunization status, giving blood supplement tablets at least 90 tablets during pregnancy, determining fetal presentation and fetal heart rate, providing counseling and simple laboratory test services such as blood group checks.

But in fact, pregnancy checks that occur in the field are far from ideal. According to information provided by the Midwife of the Puskesmas in the SAPA Foundation

assisted area in the village of Cikalong, district of Bandung, West Java, often the MMR and IMR rates are influenced by the availability of facilities and infrastructure. Facilities for pregnant women and newborns at the Cikalong Health Center, for example, are not complete. Among other things, there is no heating equipment available for babies who need it.

Many pregnant women also receive limited services. *"Pregnant women are usually examined at the Posyandu with a large queue, and data collection only on weight measurement, blood pressure, immunization status and consultation,"* said Ibu Sri, a health issue activist who actively accompanies pregnant women and midwives in Cikalong Village.

Based on some of the existing problems, there is a need for a new breakthrough to maximize services. Online services are an easy innovation to develop in order to reach citizens. The use of online services is supported by an internet network that tends to be stable, extending to villages in West Java. In addition, the intensity of using Whatsapp communication media or other online communication media is quite high among the community. Based on these considerations, the existence of online services at the Puskesmas is considered to make it easier for pregnant women to access the examination.

Yayasan Sapa and Simpul Belajar Madani (SIMBAD) through partner USAID MADANI offered an innovative *online* consultation service for pregnant women to the Cikalong Health Center. The offer was welcomed and developed together. If *online* services usually use special applications that require users to

download applications, the services offered by Sapa and SIMBAD are services that utilize Whatsapp as a social media platform used by many residents.

The target users of the online service are all pregnant women in need in the Cikalong Health Center working area. Therefore, its use is so easy. Pregnant women only need to answer a few questions asked from the party with a predetermined format. The process of compiling a list of basic questions asked to prospective patients is in full swing. So far, it has been constrained by the use of technical language that is usually only understood by medical experts. For this reason, the drafting team conducted a pilot test attended by representatives from Puskesmas, SIMBAD, and village cadres to harmonize the language used.



Through this online service, pregnancy checks can reach a wider area. And online services also allow the recording of pregnant women's examinations, so that monitoring can be carried out for pregnant women, especially pregnant women with high risk.

The development of this online service was accompanied by the formulation of a policy recommendation with the theme of stunting elimination strategies and maternal, newborn, and child health (MCH

in the district of Bandung. One of the main inputs from this document is about government attention. Despite the high MMR and IMR in Bandung District and the declining quality of health services during the pandemic, MCH has not been prioritized at the village level. This policy brief also contains a policy plan that is in line with the existing data, including a proposed regulation to include MCH issues in the Perbup and APBDes.

The document was presented directly to the local government agencies and the Vice Regent of Bandung in Soreang . The policy brief was welcomed by Syahrul Gunawan, Vice Regent of the district of Bandung. *"I appreciate the unity of civil society organizations that work together with the government for the community as a form of pentahelix"*, he said.

SAPA Institute – District of Bandung

sapa_bdg@yahoo.co.id

srisapa@gmail.com

<http://yayasansapa.id/>

He also hoped that, in the future, there will be many forums similar to SIMBAD with other issues. During the delivery of the policy brief, a good response also came from the regional agencies who said that maternal and newborn health must be supported by policies starting from the district level, for example Perbup, so that village governments can implement based on referring to the Perbup.

These welcomes and the progress of the online-based service program are a glimmer of hope for the Sapa Foundation to continue to voice the issue of MCH, collaborate and strengthen ties with the government and invite the wider community to move forward together. So that it can easily achieve the goal of a prosperous Bandung.

COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Stories of collaboration between USAID MADANI's Lead Partners and local governments in their respective regions, to support local government programs in addressing various problems in the local community



Citizen Forum in Barru brings civil registration services closer to the community

PPO Daun Hijau, Barru

The condition of population administration (*adminduk*) services in the district of Barru, South Sulawesi, are fairly ineffective. Many residents live their daily lives without birth certificates, ID cards, and health insurance that should be neatly recorded in the government. Uniquely, people are reluctant to take care of administration papers when it is not urgent. This is because there is still a lack of public awareness of the importance of orderly population administration and considers taking care of it is complicated and difficult.

In addition, not all residents in rural areas can easily access population services. Either because of the distance from the village office or *Disdukcapil*, and also services that are considered complicated,

or lack of knowledge about the benefits of taking care of population administration. In fact, without adequate civil registration, residents will have difficulty accessing health services, education, government assistance, and much more.



In response to this problem, PPO Daun Hijau as a partner of USAID MADANI formed the Assitulungeng Community Forum to bring population administration services closer to the community and encourage the community to be aware of the importance of orderly administration. The Assitulungeng Community Forum also

absorbs various complaints from the community to obtain easy administration services. In addition, the presence of the Assitlungeng Community Forum is also to assist the Village Government in socializing public awareness regarding the importance of civil registration awareness.

The Community Forum is also an extension of information from the village government to the local community in channeling complaints or community needs in fulfilling population administration registration services in the piloting village. The importance of the formation of the Assitlungeng Community Forum, apart from being a community institution, can also support the Daun Hijau program in efforts to advocate and supervise population administration services.

To begin with, this forum was piloted in the assisted area of Daun Hijau in Galung Village, Barru District, Barru, South Sulawesi. The decree for the establishment of the Assitlungeng Community Forum was issued by the Galung Village office and stamped and signed by the Head of Galung Village, Jumardin, S.Pd.I.

The Assitlungeng Community Forum consists of 56 members spread across 2 hamlets and 17 RTs in Galung Village. In each dusun, there is one coordinator of the Community Forum, and, at the neighborhood level, there is one coordinator who is assisted by two

members. This scheme facilitates the distribution of complaints or community needs in fulfilling civil registration services in Galung. The coordinators in each dusun were appointed by the dusun head, and at the neighborhood level were coordinated by the local ward head.

To date, there are 35 complaints and 20 administration services problems that have been collected by the Assitlungeng Community Forum, and all of them have been successfully resolved by forum members through established mechanisms. Problems with civil registration handled by the Community Forum include adjusting children's names on ID cards and diplomas, issuing children's birth certificates, issuing cards for husbands and wives who married illegally abroad, and others.

One of the residents of the hamlet of Kalompi, Gunawan, admitted that he was greatly helped in the administration of civil registration by the presence of the Assitlungeng Community Forum. When there are requirements that need to be clarified, he no longer needs to go all the way to the village office.

"The need for information in the fulfillment of civil registration is getting closer to us, because the management is at the RT level," said Gunawan. Similarly, community complaints related to adminduk can now be submitted directly to members of the residents' forum, who then coordinate them to the village level.

Gunawan revealed that this is certainly a new breakthrough to make it easier for the community to obtain administration services. From previously having to go all the way to the village office for consultation, it can now be done at the RT level. So that when the community is actually asked to go to the village office to bring the administration services file, they are already prepared with the necessary requirements, and no longer have to go back and forth to complete the file.

Gunawan hopes that with the continuation of the Assitulungeng Community Forum program, information related to the administration and importance of civil registration can be spread evenly to the community. In fact, it is not impossible that the program will expand its reach in the future to include communities throughout Barru.

PPO Daun Hijau - Barru

dhijaubarru.15@gmail.com

rostinasalam@yahoo.co.id

The performance of the Assitulungeng Community Forum has also been appreciated by the government. *"Of course this is very helpful for the Agency of Population and Administration in detecting community complaints related to population administration records,"* said the head of the Agency for Population and Administration of Barru, Nasaruddin. *"Hopefully this population administration service can be fast, precise and provide convenience to the community."*

The name Assitulungeng is taken from the Bugis language which means *"helping each other to obtain goodness and ease."* The tasks and functions of the Assitulungeng Community Forum are in line with the name: to make it easier for the community to obtain civil registration services and exercise their rights and obligations as citizens.



The Steps of Community Development Forum in the Spirit of Multi-Party Collaboration

Yayasan Bambu Nusantara (YBN), City of Madiun

The Madiun City Community Development Forum, abbreviated as FORPEMMA, is a multi-stakeholder forum consisting of a number of community elements in the East Java city of Madiun, especially local civil society organizations (CSOs), with different background issues but the same desire to develop the Madiun community.

One of the initiators of this forum is the Bambu Nusantara Foundation. Bambu Nusantara is a civil society organization partner of USAID MADANI Program in Madiun. Through USAID MADANI, Bambu Nusantara seeks to improve the quality of the community, especially in the economic field. The program is conducted to support the city government's program, namely the "Independent Neighborhood Program" (*Kelurahan Mandiri*), which

focuses on the development of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).



The USAID MADANI program provided various training sessions as well as technical assistance for organizational strengthening, both for Bambu Nusantara itself and as well as for Forpemma, and furthermore for MSME actors in the

assisted areas. FORPEMMA was also introduced by Bambu Nusantara on various occasions - from how the forum was formed, to their role in mentoring MSMEs to date.



FORPEMMA's activities began with a survey of MSME conditions in nine villages in Madiun. The results of the survey helped identify and select two pilot villages, where FORPEMMA will provide assistance to MSME actors there. The selected neighborhoods were Demangan and Taman. Over time, FORPEMMA's presence in the community, especially MSME players, has become more evident, and currently the Madiun Government has asked FORPEMMA to assist MSMEs in all 27 neighborhoods (*Kelurahan*)

The 27 neighborhoods were surveyed using the Community Score Card (CSC) method. CSC is used to measure the extent to which the community is affected by the stretching of MSMEs, as well as to assess the stall manager as a service provider and the stallholders as service recipients. This CSC method by Bambu Nusantara was disseminated to other service providers, namely the Manguharjo Community Health

Center in. The CSC program was also adopted for the Public Consultation Forum program at the Manguharjo Sub-district.

The hard work of the MSME players assisted by FORPEMMA and Bambu Nusantara paid off. At the end of 2022, the Madiun City KUKM Labor Office held the 2022 MSME Stall Competition, with prizes of tens of millions of rupiah. And the six best stalls assisted by FORPEMMA were chosen as champions. The implementation of this championship shows that FORPEMMA's work in assisting MSMEs is welcomed by the Madiun Government.

"The spirit of economic activity must not subside. Stalls, keep up the spirit and there must be an evaluation to find out what needs to be improved," said Madiun Mayor Maudi at the announcement and prize giving ceremony for the MSME competition.

MSME players in the assisted areas are also given training on financial management, simple bookkeeping, product marketing, and digital marketing. Then, monitoring was carried out with the aim of knowing the extent to which the assisted stalls were able to apply the training that had been provided so far. Monitoring was carried out on six MSME stalls, and this joint monitoring activity by the City Government and Forpemmma received a positive response, the plan will be a reference activity in assisting other stalls in 2023.

FORPEMMA was given training on policy and budget advocacy with the aim that

CSO members of FORPEMMA understand how the process of preparing public policies, related to identification, formulation, ratification, implementation and evaluation of policies. This training was provided to support FORPEMMA's advocacy work on policies related to the Regional Regulation Plan (*Raperda*) initiative of the DPRD and its derivative rules in the form of the Mayor's Regulation (*Perwali*) on MSMEs. The absence of protection for the rights of MSME vendors in Madiun City in the draft Raperda DPRD and Perwal 2023 was taken seriously by FORPEMMA.

Despite two years of learning from each other, FORPEMMA members must continue to prepare themselves for future developments. In the future, it is not

impossible that FORPEMMA will develop itself into a partner of various stakeholders, especially partnerships with the government, through the type III Self-Management program under Presidential Regulation 16/2018. FORPEMMA feels the need to make further improvements in order to establish itself as a government partner organization.

A number of plans were also prepared by FORPEMMA to face the development of the situation in 2023. Among other things, related to plans for internal improvement of the forum, advocacy in various fields, discussing mayoral regulations related to MSMEs, a MSME local regulation to ensure the forum's sustainability strategy. Go forward FORPEMMA, the darling of Madiun City!

YBN - Madiun City

bambuntsby@yahoo.com

t.sugianti@yahoo.com



Collaboration on Inclusive Education Programs in Singkawang

Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia (PKBI) Singkawang

The relationship between civil society organizations and local government agencies in the city of Singkawang (West Kalimantan) is historically less harmonious. The number of CSOs in Singkawang is quite large, but cooperation with the government has not been seen enough. This is suspected to be due to the perspective of some regional apparatus who consider that CSOs are only looking for shortcomings or mistakes of the local government. In 2019, when the Education and Culture Office of Singkawang issued a Decree on Teacher Mutation and information disclosure system related to new students, the Office received various criticisms or complaints from CSOs. This made CSOs seem to be looking for mistakes instead of providing constructive input.

There were attempts to strengthen this tenuous relationship put forward by Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia or PKBI when the USAID MADANI Program entered Singkawang.

PKBI designed a program with collaborative activities between CSOs and local government agencies in Singkawang. PKBI Singkawang established the Madani Community Joint Forum (ForBERANI). ForBERANI is a learning forum that involves several CSOs of course with PKBI Singkawang.



With the support of the Singkawang Government, the Thematic Action Plan, Unit and Piloting Design of the Inclusive Education Program of Singkawang were agreed upon. From the audience meeting, in principle, the Singkawang Government welcomed the USAID MADANI Program. They hope that the program can really encourage the improvement and capacity building of CSOs and FORBERANI. It can

make a big contribution and can be an example for other CSOs.

The results of collaboration began to be felt when the Mayor of Singkawang and his staff introduced USAID's MADANI inclusive education program online to the people of Singkawang. The activity took place on Thursday, March 18, 2021 in the Telematic Control Management (TCM) room of the Mayor's Office. The agenda of the hearing included program presentation and discussion of thematic issues of the Program in Singkawang. Exposure of the vision, approach, and development of the MADANI Program.

The activity also discussed collaboration and cooperation in the development of Singkawang. Mainly support for the implementation of the Madani Program in Singkawang. Edi Prawoko from Kesbangpol or the Agency for National Unity and Politics, explained that there are 72 CSOs recorded at Kesbangpol Singkawang in 2021. Kesbangpol hopes that CSOs can synergize and make the maximum contribution to Singkawang City.

In this activity, Roby Sanjaya from PKBI Singkawang conveyed the flow of the inclusive education action plan that will be carried out in collaboration with the parties during 2022-2023 which received a positive response from the parties present.

Then Mariamah Achmad as Field Coordinator of the USAID MADANI Program in Singkawang said that this activity was the beginning of a series of actions of the initiative of civil society organizations in Singkawang to be involved in regional development by carrying out thematic inclusive education.

In this activity, a joint agreement was produced between the Singkawang City Government in this case the Education and Culture Office, the Regional Development Planning Agency and the National Unity and Political Agency, and other parties, namely CSOs in ForBERANI.

The private sector, namely PINSAR (Indonesian People's Poultry Association), and STKIP Singkawang Academics also supported the implementation of the *Community Involvement Program in Improving the Quality of Infrastructure and Human Resources for Inclusive Basic Education Services in the Singkawang Service Unit*). The agreement also stipulates four schools as pilots (namely SDN 42 South Singkawang, SDN 27 West Singkawang, SMPN 6 South Singkawang, and SMPN 5 West Singkawang and also regulates the role of the parties in improving inclusive basic education services in piloting schools.

"On behalf of the Singkawang City Government, of course, we really appreciate USAID, which has made agreements with several stakeholders, in order to accelerate and improve the quality of basic education services in Singkawang, because education is a shared responsibility between the government, civil society organizations, the business world, academics and citizens," said the Head of the Singkawang Education and Culture Office, Asmadi.

"Education should not be discriminatory, education is for all, even though our children have special needs and are diverse, they must have the same rights to education," said Secretary of Bakesbangpol Singkawang, Maya Sherly Kartika.

The Inclusive Education Program taken by ForBERANI and PKBI Singkawang also allows the piloting school to cooperate and build networks with special education units, universities, professional organizations, rehabilitation institutions, hospitals, community health centers, therapy clinics, the business world, civil society organizations, and other community members.



Opportunities as well as challenges in inclusive education are building collaboration, partnerships, clarity of authority or regulation, availability of disaggregated data, innovation, participation and community involvement and several other obstacles that will continue to find solutions as the program progresses.

PKBI - Singkawang

Pkbisingkawang20@gmail.com

novawijaya73@gmail.com

On August 4, 2022 through Focus Group Discussion (FGD) activities attended by Bakesbangpol, Bappeda, Kominfo Office, UKPBJ, Regional Inspector, Education and Culture Office and Regional Finance Agency with PKBI Singkawang and ForBERANI represented by Fatayat NU, IPSM (Association of Community Social Workers), ISPM (Institute for Student Development Studies), STKIP Singkawang Academics, Singkawang City Education Board.

On this occasion, Maya Sherly Kartini said that Kesbangpol was ready to make a technical guidance program (bimtek) with a fund of 60 million or less to strengthen the capacity of CSOs in Singkawang, in this case assisted by PKBI Singkawang and ForBERANI to provide capacity building material to CSOs.

The series of activities within the framework of the USAID MADANI Program will gradually build trust between the local government of Singkawang and CSOs there. In the end, the trust built by both parties will be able to bring mutual benefit for the progress of Singkawang.



Residents and Puskesmas Collaborate to Achieve Inclusive Health Services in Wonosobo

KITA Institute Wonosobo

The Community Health Center (*Puskesmas*) is one of the Indonesian government's efforts to provide equitable, comprehensive, and quality health services to the Indonesian people. However, in its implementation, the *Puskesmas* still has many obstacles in carrying out its duties and functions. This problem is faced by *Puskesmas* in the district of Wonosobo, Central Java.



This condition certainly cannot be improved without the active role of the community in providing input and supervision. So Forum MADANI Wonosobo, an alliance of seven civil society organizations, journalists, and academics, coordinated by KITA Institute, USAID MADANI's partner in Wonosobo, took part.

This forum conducts surveys and monitoring with the *Puskesmas*, with the aim of inviting the community to be actively involved in providing input to the *Puskesmas* in order to be able to meet the needs of the community as a whole. The survey and monitoring areas were carried out at three points, namely *Puskesmas* Kaliwiro as a representative of rural areas, *Puskesmas* Wonosobo 1 as a representative of urban areas, and *Puskesmas* Garung which represents *suburban* or residential health centers.

Before conducting the survey and monitoring, the MADANI Wonosobo Forum had seen the conditions of the three health centers concerned. From the first glance, the three health centers still had many shortcomings both in terms of facilities and the service procedures. There has not been a thorough diagnosis of the root of the problems faced by the three health centers, and although health centers throughout Wonosobo have actually provided a public satisfaction complaint channel, the complaint channel has not been running effectively.

The implementation of the survey and joint monitoring began with the establishment of a Citizens' Forum as a form of direct community involvement. The members of the Citizens' Forum consisted of five members who came from the coverage area of the health center concerned. The next step was to increase the capacity of the members of the Citizens' Forum to be able to conduct satisfaction surveys and monitoring more readily. The preparation of survey tools was carried out by collaborating with representatives of the three Puskesmas. They were invited to be directly involved in agreeing on the survey tools, as well as agreeing on the form of joint monitoring.

The community satisfaction survey was conducted on January 5-7, 2022 by the Citizen Forum, accompanied by Forum MADANI Wonosobo and KITA Institute. In just three days, the survey successfully involved 875 respondents who were visitors to the Puskesmases in question who had accessed Puskesmas services within the last three months. The survey was carried out using the Citizen Report

Card (CRC) method, which is a tool commonly used to see assessments from the public directly.

The results of the CRC show that there are 10 issues that are most frequently complained about by the public. Of the ten most common complaints, seven were about facilities, amenities, and infrastructure. For example, many respondent mothers complained about the hassle of bringing their children and felt that they needed a children's playroom.

People also find it difficult to park their vehicles. *"The parking location is very difficult to reach, especially if it is crowded, it is difficult to find an empty space to park,"* complained Ita, one of the visitors to the Puskesmas Garung. Two other complaints concerned human resources, and one concerned the service standards component. The most frequent complaints are complaints about the unavailability of security guards, the unavailability of a canteen, and no information on the amount of service fees.

After the survey, MADANI Wonosobo Forum organized joint monitoring with the Puskesmas to see the real performance of the services provided by the Puskesmas. This joint monitoring was highly evaluated by the Citizens' Forum. The results of the survey were then submitted to each target health center.

Some complaints were immediately followed up by the Puskesmas concerned. Complaints about toilet lighting in the three Puskesmas were improved by replacing the light bulbs in the toilets. Then, the target health center began

providing information service officers only a few weeks after the survey was completed. Previously, the absence of information officers was one of the most chronic complaints.

An interesting story comes from Maryam, a person with disabilities who often accesses health services at Puskesmas Wonosobo 1. During the survey, Maryam was one of those who vocally criticized the lack of parking spaces and services for patients with disabilities like herself. But only a few weeks later, she claimed to feel the changes after the community survey conducted by the Wonosobo MADANI Forum.

"When I arrived at the Puskesmas, the parking attendant immediately directed me to the parking lot close to the entrance and then also helped in providing information about services at the Puskesmas," he explained.

It wasn't just the the community who gave a positive response. The Head of Puskesmas Kaliwiro, Dr. Petrus, also stated that the survey and monitoring activities conducted by the MADANI Wonosobo Forum were very helpful for the health center in providing maximum services to the community.

KITA Institute - Wonosobo
lembagakita06@gmail.com
ekamunfarida5@gmail.com

"These ten complaints are an evaluation material for us", said Dr. Petrus. "We actually already have a special officer who handles complaints, but the survey from Forum MADANI Wonosobo has helped us to receive complaints from a wider range of people".

Not stopping at the Puskesmas, the survey results were then used as the basis for policy proposals submitted to the relevant local government agencies and the Wonosobo Government. The hope is that the findings in the field can encourage the realization of a quality and inclusive health service system in Wonosobo. The activity will be continued by conducting sample surveys at 3-5 other Puskesmas as data reinforcement, so as to be able to assist the local government in making and deciding policies related to Puskesmas.

This survey is proof that community participation is vitally important in paying attention to the services provided by Regional Apparatus Organizations. The courage of the community to be more open and involved is still minimal, but if facilitated, the results can be extraordinary.



The Struggle of Sanggar Hijau Indonesia through Policy Pathways in Alleviating Waste Problems in Jombang

Sanggar Hijau Indonesia (SHI) Jombang

In the framework of the USAID MADANI Program, Sanggar Hijau Indonesia (SHI) as the USAID MADANI partner in the district of Jombang, East Java, conducted joint activities with members of Forum Masyarakat Madani Jombang (FMMJ), a joint learning forum formed after SHI became a MADANI Program partner. FMMJ was also encouraged to form a space that can realize collaborative government management. Civil society organizations from various backgrounds such as women and children, faith groups, , and environmental groups, collaborated to realize one dream: A more prosperous and humane Jombang for its citizens.

One of the activities of SHO and FMJJ is the implementation of surveys and monitoring of public services related to waste management. The monitoring was

conducted using the Community Score Card (CSC) tool and addressed to village governments and local residents in two pilot areas, namely Kaliwungu Village and Sambongdukuh Village, Jombang District. The results of the survey turned out to be in line with the results of field observations conducted by SHI: there needs to be an operational policy in the form of a Regent Regulation as a



derivative of the Regional Regulation to

further stabilize waste management in Jombang.

This CSC process was monitored and discussed in depth with relevant government agencies such as the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), the Environmental Agency (DLH), the District Health Agency (DHO), and the Sambongdukuh Village Government and Kaliwungu Village Government.

The CSC recommendations have also been received by Bappeda, DLH, and the Regional Secretariat of Jombang. *"Bappeda expresses its gratitude for the activities that you have done, which eventually led to the idea of this recommendation",* said Rudi A, Head of Research and Development (Litbang) of Bappeda. *"I agree that the most important issue in waste management is prevention, which is realized by sorting waste properly from an early age."*



SHI and FMJJ initiated a meeting at the DLH office of Jombang with the Zero Waste Indonesia Alliance (AZWI) to equalize perceptions in pushing for a Regent Regulation on Waste Management. In subsequent meetings, the group collaborated to draft the

Perbup with a simple end goal: regulating the restriction of plastic bags, straws, and styrofoam in retail stores, offices, cafes, hotels, religious institutions, and religious facilities.

From this long process and joint work between the government and CSOs, Jombang District finally gave birth to Regent Regulation No.56 of 2022 on Limiting the Use of Single-Use Plastic. This regulation aims to reduce the generation of single-use plastic waste that is difficult to decompose and build community participation. The targets of this Perbup include services, food and beverages, learning centers, modern stores, office activities, religious activities, educational institutions, and tourism activities.

Not long after, the Regent issued a Circular Letter (*Surat Edaran*) addressed to the Heads of local government agencies in Jombang to limit the use of single-use plastics in government agencies. The Circular Letter includes initiating a campaign to use tumblers instead of single-use plastic bottles, providing dispensers for meetings and daily events, providing segregated waste bins, developing organic waste treatment and composting, processing inorganic waste through waste banks, and many more.

The Banjardowo Final Waste Disposal Site (TPA) in Jombang, East Java, recently witnessed a proud event. On September 21, 2022, four FMMJ members received an award from the Jombang Government for their commitment to supporting community-based waste management programs.

Awards were given to *Bank Sampah Induk Jombang* (BSIJ) as the facilitator of waste bank formation, Umar Subhan Basri as the facilitator of waste reprocessing technology (TPS3R) in Rejoagung Berseri, and Santri Jogo Kali as the initiator of the Waste-Free Clean River program in Jombang. Not to forget, a special award was also received by Sanggar Hijau Indonesia (SHI), a partner of USAID MADANI, as the initiator of the program.

In a brief interview after the event, Amir Kurniawan, Head of Waste and Green Open Space Division at DLH Jombang expressed his appreciation. "MADANI friends have been working with us and

collaborating in many ways related to the establishment of policies to encourage Eid al-Adha with minimal waste", he said. "Some actions are also supported by MADANI: for example, MADANI's friends directly assisted several villages".

However, that night in Banjardowo, the highest appreciation came from the community. "This program is touching and helpful", said Yudi S. Hariadi, a representative of Kaliwungu residents. "Since there is guidance from SHI and FMMJ, we have not only learned to manage waste and earn profits. The mindset and lifestyle of the community has also changed".

SHI - Jombang

sanggarhijauindonesia@gmail.com

shantiramadhani@gmail.com

www.sanggarhijau.org

