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PKM INCREASING COASTAL COMMUNITIES' CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF DUG WELLS AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TOILETS

Melda Fajra¹, Julita Andrini², Robby Hotter³, Helny Lalan⁴, Hafiz Maulana⁵, Andryan⁶, Rahmat Kurniawan⁷, Rido Rizaldy⁸, Dipo Kurnia⁹, Vaulin Gendriani¹⁰

^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10} Program Studi Teknik Sipil, Fakultas Teknik dan Perencanaan, Universitas Ekasakti

E-mail: melda_fajra@yahoo.com

ARTICLE INFO

Correspondent

Melda Fajra

melda_fajra@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT

Community service with the title "PKM Increases Coastal Community Concern for the Environment through the Construction of Dug Wells and Environmentally Friendly Toilets." This activity aims to increase awareness and involvement of coastal communities in maintaining environmental cleanliness and improving sanitation through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets. Education and outreach methods that combine community meetings and outreach sessions in schools have succeeded in increasing public awareness about the importance of good sanitation. Education sessions in schools have a positive impact on the younger generation, making them more aware of the meaning of keeping the environment clean. The community conference succeeded in increasing collective awareness of the close relationship between ecosystem sustainability, individual health and environmental cleanliness. Active community participation in project planning and implementation results in a high sense of ownership of the sanitation infrastructure being built. Strong collaboration with local governments and non-governmental organizations ensures the financial and logistical support necessary for project continuity. The research results show that the development of sanitation infrastructure not only meets basic needs, but also influences community behavior, becoming a shared responsibility in maintaining health and environmental sustainability. It is hoped that the success of this initiative can produce sustainable positive changes in environmental conservation efforts in coastal areas. Next steps include expanding the scope of education and outreach, improving ongoing maintenance and monitoring, and further involvement of the private sector. This abstract reflects how environmentally friendly infrastructure can have a positive impact in increasing awareness and participation of coastal communities regarding environmental cleanliness and sanitation.

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INTRODUCTION

The coast of Padang City, West Sumatra, is known for its extraordinary natural beauty. However, unfortunately, serious environmental problems often occur in this area. To improve the welfare of coastal communities, special attention needs to be paid to environmental sustainability. Therefore, this community service project aims to increase coastal communities' awareness of the environment through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets. This activity is focused on the city of Padang, West Sumatra, and is expected to make a positive contribution, both to public health and to preserving the coastal environment which is vulnerable to change.

Padang City, a coastal city directly bordering the Indian Ocean, is rich in nature and abundant marine resources. However, population growth and human activities along the coast often cause negative impacts on the environment. One of the main challenges faced by coastal residents is sanitation problems and lack of access to adequate sanitation facilities.

The main factors causing environmental problems in the coastal areas of Padang City are irregular development, lack of education about sanitation, and inadequate sanitation infrastructure. Therefore, this community service activity aims to overcome this problem through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets.

Environmental problems in the coastal city of Padang involve low public awareness of environmental sanitation and cleanliness. This causes a decrease in sea water quality, the spread of disease, and harm to the marine ecosystem. Apart from that, the community's limited access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities also has a negative impact on health and daily life.

With rapid population growth, a lack of understanding about the negative impacts of unhygienic behavior, and the lack of adequate sanitation infrastructure in the coastal areas of Padang City, the complexity of this problem is increasing. Therefore, a holistic and sustainable solution is needed to increase public awareness of the coastal environment.

In facing the challenge of increasing coastal communities' awareness of the environment through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets in Padang City, West Sumatra, an integrated and sustainable solution is needed. So this community service activity was held with the theme **"Increasing awareness of coastal communities towards the environment through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets"** to be able to help coastal communities, especially those in the Padang city area and its surroundings.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

Community service in Padang City is carried out through education and counseling methods. Through community meetings, workshops and other activities, the community is given an understanding of the importance of environmental sanitation and cleanliness. This educational process also involves the community in planning and implementing projects, so that they feel ownership and can exchange knowledge with each other. By involving the younger generation, it is hoped that positive habits regarding environmental cleanliness will be formed. Collaboration with local governments, local educational institutions and non-governmental organizations is

key in ensuring project continuity and recognition of community rights. By using this method, the project not only has a physical impact, but also creates a community that is educated, environmentally conscious, and active in keeping the coast of Padang City clean.

RESULTS OF ACTIVITIES

Initial Conditions and Activity Plans

Initially, the coastal communities of Padang City, West Sumatra, faced serious challenges related to environmental sanitation and cleanliness. One of the main issues is the lack of access to adequate sanitation facilities and the low level of concern for the environment. Therefore, this community service activity aims to increase this awareness through the construction of dug wells and environmentally friendly toilets.

Implementation of Activities

Education and outreach methods have brought significant positive changes in the understanding of coastal communities in Padang City regarding environmental sanitation and cleanliness. This approach has increased their understanding of the benefits derived from good sanitation practices. Educational sessions in schools and community meetings have been effective in creating awareness of the importance of maintaining environmental cleanliness, individual health and ecosystem sustainability.

To achieve this goal, education in schools has opened up opportunities to share relevant knowledge with students. This aims to form a younger generation who is more aware of the importance of preventive measures in sanitation. In addition, community meetings also provide a platform for open discussion, exchange of ideas, and building a sense of togetherness in an effort to improve environmental conditions. Public awareness of the positive impacts of sanitation is not only limited to aspects of individual health, but also includes a deep understanding of the protection of local ecosystems which has a direct impact on environmental sustainability.

Through this method, critical messages about the importance of maintaining environmental cleanliness have been successfully received by coastal communities collectively. This forms a strong basis for changing behavior, where people not only view sanitation as a basic need, but also as a shared responsibility to maintain their own health, the environment and the sustainability of their ecosystem.

Society participation

Active community participation in project planning and implementation is the key to success. The formation of community groups responsible for maintaining and monitoring sanitation infrastructure reflects the high sense of ownership among the community. By directly involving the community, this project not only provides physical benefits but also creates sustainability through ongoing maintenance.

Selection of Environmentally Friendly Technology and Building Materials

Choosing environmentally friendly technology and building materials shows a commitment to project sustainability. Technology that can survive coastal environmental conditions, such as sea water and extreme weather, is a top priority. Choosing building materials that are easily recycled also minimizes environmental impact and creates a more sustainable infrastructure.

Positive impact

The results of implementing this activity show a real positive impact. Apart from building adequate sanitation infrastructure, the people of Padang City are also experiencing changes in attitudes and behavior towards environmental cleanliness. The success of this project can be seen not only from physical changes, but also from changes in community culture. The formation of a society that is more environmentally aware, educated and proactive in keeping the coast of Padang City clean is an indicator of the extraordinary success of this activity. Thus, this project can be used as an example for similar efforts to improve community welfare and environmental sustainability in coastal areas.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The knot

Through community service activities with the title "Increasing Coastal Community Awareness of the Environment through the Construction of Dug Wells and Environmentally Friendly Toilets," it can be concluded that education and counseling methods have had a significant positive impact in increasing awareness of coastal communities in Padang City regarding environmental sanitation and cleanliness. Educational sessions in schools and community meetings have succeeded in creating a deeper understanding of the close relationship between environmental cleanliness and individual health and ecosystem sustainability.

Active community participation in project planning and implementation shows a high sense of ownership of the sanitation infrastructure being built. The formation of community groups responsible for maintenance and supervision creates long-term project sustainability. Good cooperation with local governments and non-governmental organizations ensures the financial and logistical support necessary for the continuity of this project.

Suggestion

Based on the results of this activity, we would like to propose several recommendations and suggestions to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of similar programs in the future:

1. Further efforts are needed to strengthen collaboration with local governments and non-governmental organizations so that projects can receive greater support in terms of funding allocation, licensing and better coordination.
2. Although extension activities have had a positive impact, expansion of coverage needs to be done so that more levels of society can be involved. One effective way is through information campaigns via social media and local television programs, which can reach a wider audience.
3. Apart from building dug wells and toilets, we can also integrate other initiatives that support environmental sustainability, such as waste management and water conservation, to create a more holistic impact.

THANK-YOU NOTE

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