

Public Participation on Environmental Improvement and Protection Programme: Study Case in Semarang City

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A. SEMARANG CITY, CENTRAL JAVA – INDONESIA.

Semarang City is capital city of Central Java Province in the Java island. It is also a capital of Semarang Municipality. With the total population living in the city of about 1.348.588 people (2002), we can call it as a metropolitan city.

A.1 Geographical Site

Semarang City lies between 6050' –7010' of South Latitude and 109035' – 110050' of East Longitude. The west border is Kendal Regency, the east border is Demak Regency, the South border is Semarang Regency, and in the north is Java Sea with the shoreline length of 13,6 Km. The ground elevation of Semarang City is 0,75 – 348,00 from mean sea level.

A.2. Climate and Topography

The topography of Semarang Municipality consists of coastal area, lowland plain, and mountainous area. In the Northern, that is coastal and lowland area, has a dip between 0-2%, and various altitudes between 0 – 3,5 meters.

In the Southern is highland plain area with a dip between 2 – 40%, and altitude elevation between 90 – 270 meters above sea level.

Hidrologically, Semarang has a tropical climate with two seasons, wet and dry season is from November to April influenced by monsoon, and dry season is from May to October influenced by east monsoon. The average of the lowest temperature is 28.0°C, and the lowest ecoterm is 23.50°C and the highest one is 34.3°C.

A.3 Width

Administratively, Semarang City comprises 16 sub districts and 177 villages. Total the width of Semarang City is 373,70 Km². The existing width consist of 36,56 Km² (9.79%) rice field and 337,12 Km² (90.21%) not rice field. Most of dry field (not rice field) is use as yards, housing and development area for trading and office facility.

A.4. Division of Administration Region.

Semarang Municipality with the width of 373,67 Km² comprises 16 sub districts and 177 villages. The widest sub district is Mijen (57,55 KM²) followed by Gunungpati with 52,63 Km², while the smallest sub district is Semarang Tengah (5,14 Km²).

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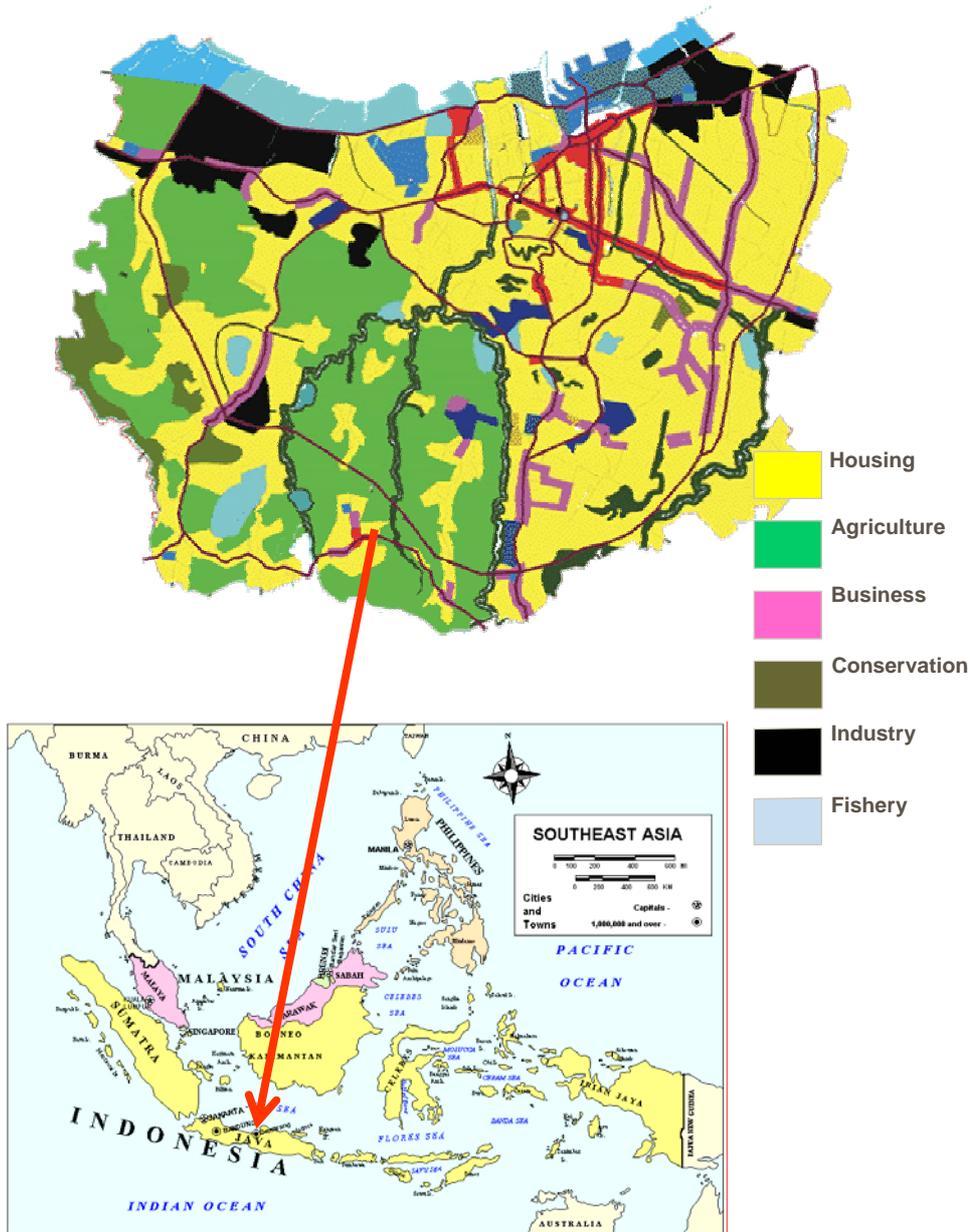


Figure 1: Map of Semarang

From the point of population density, Mijen and Tugu sub districts have the smallest density, that is under 1000 people per Km². it's because both sub districts are developed as agricultural regions and industrial areas. For the heart of city, a sub district with the highest density is Semarang Tengah (14.944 people per km²)

A.5. Demography Administration

In 2002, the number of birth issued by Civil Registration Office of Semarang Municipality is 21.454 pieces, increase 2,18% compared with previous year. While the marriage document increase 1,63% and divorce document decrease 9,28%, compared with the document of 2001.

Based on the registration in 2001, the population in Semarang municipality was 1.350.005 with the growth rate of 2,09% over 2001. The such condition means that the demography development, especially an effort to lower the number of birth, provide a true result.

For 5 years (1998-2002), the population density tended to be higher together with the increase of population. On the other side, the spread in each district has not evenly spread. In Semarang Municipality, Ssemarang Tengah sub district is the most dense-populated area, while the Mijen sub district is the lowest one.

B. INTRODUCTION ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

In the conduction of a program related to community, involvement of community's participation is a merely important matter, particularly in preparation stage. Giving space for community's aspiration, opinion, and proportion, is a contribution for program's value.

Also important, during the conduction of program, related community should be actively and maximally involved according to their involvement's proportion in the program. The wider community level involved in the program and the more intense their involvement, the better the value of the activity is. Though it is needed to be stated that to cover a more community level, a more complicated time and energy needed from program manager.

Experience exposed in involving various level of community during the conduction of Bintari- Kita program in Semarang which is lasted for 23 months (counted from October 2001, effectively), is hoped to be able to distribute a fruitful experience for all of us.

C. A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF BINTARI-KITA PROGRAM IN SEMARANG CITY, CENTRAL JAVA, INDONESIA

Since 1995, BINTARI-KITA Partnership Program is created in the form of Pilot Project on Aqua-Environmental Improvement Project for a Model River Basin in the City of Semarang. Through various process of consultation, screening, and evaluation from Kitakyushu International Techno-Cooperative Association (KITA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In October 2001, program conduction for 36 months term or will be finished in September 2004 is realized. However, in the development, a policy to fasten the conduction of program appears. Therefore, the program term is shortened to be 28 months or planned to be completed in March 2004.

Main purpose of the activity is to reduce pollution in Bajak river basin, especially of tofu waste water. Thus, by the improvement of river water quality, soil quality along the river bank will also improve. Success of pollution reduction will be viewed from the reduction of BOD and COD and observation of biota living in and around river flow.

Therefore, some main activities are implemented:

- Environmental education
- Increasing community awareness on environment
- Understanding of clean production
- Establishment of KSM to manage and maintain built facilities.
- Planning and building of pipeline for waste water from tofu production
- Planning and building of waste water treatment facility (WWTF)
- Training on management and maintenance of pipeline and WWTF

To support the conduction of program, community involvement becomes an important part we need to do. Long before the main activities are conducted (especially physical development), polling of community's opinion is conducted on whether community feels that the program which will be done will bring prosperity for them or not. According to community's opinion, what kind of activities need to be done so that they can actively get involved in the conduction of the program.

If necessary, we can modify plan to make it suitable to community's opinion, as long is it doesn't slide away from the aims and purposes of the program. Being tolerate to the opinion and will of community is a reflection of democracy and open-minded that is needed to be paid attention.

D. GROUPS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAM

From the beginning, when the pre-proposal is arranged, consultation and discussion for opinion's expose with some groups of community has been done.

Groups of community get involved are:

- a. Community in program's area;
In this case, this group is represented by local community leaders, the leaders of RT, RW, PKK, Youth Group, and representatives from LKMD/BPK (Kelurahan Council)
- b. Community of Tofu producers;
Represented by KOPTI committee for eastern Semarang scope.
- c. Local Government Officer
In Kecamatan (District), Head of Candisari and Southern Semarang Districts are involved.
In Kelurahan (Sub District), officers from Jomblang Subdistrict and Lamper Tengah are involved.
- d. Government Institutions;
Related institutions get involved are:
 - Environmental Impact Agency of Semarang City

- Planning and Development Agency of Semarang City
 - Cleaning Agency of Semarang City
 - National Education Department of Semarang City
 - Cooperation, Industry, and Trading Department of Semarang City
 - Public Work Department
 - City planning and settlement's Department
 - Living environment Research Center–Diponegoro University
 - Chemical Engineering Faculty-Diponegoro University
 - Center of Demography and Living Environment-Semarang State University
- e. Groups of Nature Lovers from Universities
- Various groups of nature lovers in universities of Semarang City

E. AIMS AND PURPOSES OF COMMUNITY'S INVOLVEMENT

Generally, aims and purposes that will be reached from community's involvement are :

- a. To make community as end-user, will feel to be respected and given space to get involved. Raising dedication and commitment of community members to be more active in handling environmental activities according to each scope of duties.
- b. Community leaders and organisation committee established in community are hoped to actuate their institution in participating in raising program's conduction during the conduction and post of program.
- c. For government institution, giving a way to conduct their own responsibilities based on their own Main Duties and Function of each institution.
- d. For youth and women groups, as a way to cadre the leaders who have careness of environmental problems.
- e. For PKK leaders, can apply households management in eco-friendly point of view like in waste management, saving clean water, and electricity,, healthy behaviour, and eco-friendly for all family members.
- f. For youth from nature lovers, can raise innovation and creativity to explore alternative solution to solve the existing problems.

G. CONCLUSION

Thus a few description of our experience in involving community in one program's area. We hope, there will be a fruitful benefit that can be obtained and improved by program conductor from NGOs, related institution, and community, also for government institution. The last point interest as conclusion is;

1. Community's involvement should be realized since the idea of program appears.
2. plan of a program should be socialized to the involved community.
3. It is needed to pay attention and consider advices and comments from community to be taken as inputs as a part of program's conduction.
4. During the conduction of program, community should be given place to play their roles and to be actively taking part.
5. The least and the most important, a consideration that it is community that will follow a result of a program up. As an end user, they should be prepared to manage the program with an adequate capability.
6. Government and NGO's roles are as the assistance of routine activities that will be a part of community's responsibility.



Figure 2: CBO monthly meeting



Figure 3: Seminar on Public Participation