

# The Effectiveness of Online Education during Covid-19 Pandemic in Indonesia

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## ABSTRACT

The high number of Covid-19 that has occurred has made people face a new era, of course, this is a challenge for changes that need to be made suddenly to overcome the spread of Covid-19. In many countries, the learning system is changed to online as well as in Indonesia. However, there are various obstacles in the process, such as not all people have mastered and understood various e-learning platforms. By not mastering the e-learning platform and technology, of course, this will lead to ineffectiveness in scientific reasoning and will have a direct impact, especially felt by teachers, students, and parents in helping and guiding the educational process of their children as users of the platform. Therefore, the e-learning platform is really effective during this pandemic, this needs to be investigated further, especially in Indonesia. The government found that online learning will reduce the risk of the spread of the virus by maintaining social distance and minimizing the population to travel so that it is very effective in reducing the number of Covid-19 spikes.

**Keywords:** *Online education, E-learning platform, Covid-19, Indonesia*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 pandemic brought many changes to the world, including Indonesia. The spread of coronavirus is the highest cause of death for now. Darmalaksana et al. (2020) [1] stated that many countries have implemented social distancing to the public to limit human interaction in the wider community. because there is a possibility that someone has been infected by the virus but has not been identified as having so that it has not been isolated or quarantined.

Hasanah et al. (2020) [2] study found that social distancing has a big impact on all sectors in life, resulting in the closure of educational facilities, shopping centers, and so on. Nurgiansah and Wijoyo (2020) [3] stated education is like a place to form intelligent citizens who can solve all problems of life, and a product which is produced to archive the national ideal.

Then the outbreak or the rise of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world, especially in Indonesia at this time, has a huge impact on various sectors, including the education sector.

All the efforts have been made by the government to minimize or to prevent the spread of the virus. Dwi et al. (2020) [4] stated that one of the efforts is online learning for all students due to social restrictions. One of the efforts made by the government to suppress the spread of COVID-19 in Indonesia is physical restrictions or physical distancing.

However, Covid-19 is not a reason that learning must be stopped. Governments in various countries have also changed the education system which is usually carried out in school or university buildings to be implemented online. This is of course a measure to prevent the transmission of Covid-19 in schools and universities considering that the number of the population aged as students in Indonesia is very high. With the implementation of online learning, it is hoped that this will be effective in reducing the number of spikes in COVID-19 in various countries.

In general, as a young generation who are very familiar with technological advances, it is certainly easy to adapt to various changes that arise such as Various applications on the internet that can also be used as learning subjects that can be used by students, such as the many blogs and webs containing educational sciences and various educational journals available on the Google search engine. Likewise, various educational videos and channels on YouTube regarding various subjects are also easy to access so that students can learn various things more easily and efficiently.

To continue teaching and learning activities, Rachmat and Krisnadi (2020) [5] stated that online learning is the solution. Suhada et al. (2020) [6] found online learning can be carried out through various applications, like Zoom, Google Meet, Google Classroom, WhatsApp Group, and many others. The change in the learning process has some problems.

Sari and Sutapa (2020) [7] claimed restrictions can cause many changes in various

aspects of social, economic, cultural, and even educational life. The Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia has issued a circular regarding learning problems during the Covid-19 period. In the circular, it is stated how the learning process from home will be carried out with the following conditions:

- a. Online or distance learning at home is implemented to provide a new learning experience for students, without the burden of completing all curriculum for class or graduation;
- b. Learning from home can be focused on education, learning how to live during this covid-19 pandemic;
- c. Learning from home activities and collecting assignments can be done in various ways that vary according to interests and conditions, including the availability of access and learning facilities at home;
- d. Evidence of learning activities from home is provided with qualitative and useful feedback from the teacher without the need to provide quantitative scores.

With the online learning system, both educators and students can manage their time better, and feel a newer independent learning atmosphere with technological developments.

This is also supported by Mulawarman's (2020) [8] research that with the online learning system, students are expected to gain more knowledge without having to go to the campus. Furthermore, the study by Kusuma and Hamidah (2020) [9] stated that the online or remote education system is a solution to ease the difficulty of learning by having to face to face with the rules of social distancing considering the problems of time, location, and cost that are a problem for students today.

Policies issued by The Ministry of Education and Culture Republic of Indonesia cannot ensure that everything will work as it should be. During this COVID-19 pandemic, almost all students in Indonesia are in their respective hometowns scattered throughout

Indonesia. In some remote areas in Indonesia, internet network facilities and electricity are still lacking, which makes the online learning process not as effective as expected.

## **2. METHOD**

The research method used in this study is a qualitative approach. According to Neuman (2017) [10], qualitative research is inductive, and the main goal is to find the meaning of a social setting. The data collected in this study will be analyzed to produce detailed descriptions of people and events in a social setting. Lots of medium techniques are used in qualitative research, such as sentence completion, drawing pictures, word association test, and Thematic Apperception Test [11].

Meanwhile, the data collection technique used in this study is a literature review. According to Neuman (2017) [10], the literature review is based on what others have done or past studies. The literature review is used to produce a well-written document that summarizes what many studies say about a research question. Literature review materials used in this study are obtained from books, journals, and website articles. With the help of the internet, data collection can be done easily.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION E-LEARNING**

E-learning is one of the many learning methods in the world. E-learning is based on the internet. This learning method must be done by all students in the world, not only in Indonesia but also in other countries. The reason is because of the Covid-19 pandemic, social distancing must be implemented to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. In Indonesia, the e-learning method is something we are familiar with, but not all schools in Indonesia implement this system, particularly the ones located in remote areas or villages [12].

Hartanto and Wiwin (2016) [13] stated that basically, e-learning has two types, namely: Synchronous and Asynchronous.

Synchronous type is a learning process that is carried out at the same time between an educator and his students. this is done online. This synchronous type provides internet access to educators and students simultaneously. an educator will provide learning materials via power point for presentations and students listen to presentations from educators directly. Students can also ask or comment directly if there are questions or problems experienced by pressing the button to chat. Synchronous type likens a face-to-face class image but in a virtual or online form.

Meanwhile, according to Hartanto and Wiwin (2016) [13], asynchronous type is a learning process that is carried out by educators and students at different times, asynchronous type is more in demand because students can open learning materials provided by educators anytime they want. Students can also study and complete the assignments given at any time as long as it does not pass the predetermined schedule.

Rustiani et al. (2019) [14] stated that in the e-learning process, students need Supporting facilities and infrastructure for learning to take place and have a better quality of learning. Furthermore, according to the study by Widayanti et al. (2021) [15], these facilities and infrastructure are smartphones, computers or laptops, applications, and internet networks. All of these are used as a medium in e-learning.

Based on a study conducted by Dwi et al. (2020) [4], not all parents or families can fulfill these facilities and infrastructure requirements given because of the uneven economic status, so the learning process based on e-learning is not delivered properly. Dwi et al. (2020) [4] also stated that that combining offline and online learning is a democratic decision to bridge the rapid spread of e-learning resources and the difficulty of disengaging from the use of learning resources for use in the classroom. Therefore, this means that whatever technology is used or

how sophisticated it is, e-learning still cannot replace face-to-face learning because some people think that it is still more effective than online learning or e-learning. In addition, limitations in accessing the internet or slow internet, hardware such as damaged computers, and software that does not respond or crashes, as well as problems with internet costs, are often the things that become obstacles in maximizing online learning.

### **The Effectiveness of Online Learning**

Rovai (Mahardika:2002) [16] states that the delivery tool is not a determining factor for the quality of learning, but rather the design of the subject determines the effectiveness of learning. Results from previous research by Oyediran et al., (2020) [17] found that learning materials certainly have an important role in the process of knowledge delivery. This is also supported by research by Sukendro et al. (2020) [18] that the availability of facilities in the process of delivering learning influences perceived ease of use. In the era of the Covid- 19 pandemic, learning is carried out online so that the availability of many e-learning platforms will have a more effective impact on learning activities.

Positive impacts with the existence of e-learning include the majority of teachers suggesting their students use various modules and books in pdf or online books, so of course, this will indirectly affect the ecosystem on earth considering that papers and books generally use trees as the basic material for its manufacture. With the use of online books and other online editorials, this is very environmentally friendly.

Another thing that is obtained in e-learning activities is the emergence of new experiences and atmospheres in generating a learning atmosphere, especially for elementary school children who feel a new atmosphere in learning. This is certainly a new challenge for teachers to prepare new ideas and creativity to attract the concentration of

school children. Of course, this is very interesting and effective for parents because they can work or do activities at home while supervising their children. So that children will be more supervised by their parents.

It is undeniable that various negative things can happen, one of which is if children are not limited in using technology such as long school hours, it can certainly damage eye health and also children will feel bored. Excessive assignments can also increase the stress experienced by students so that students cannot produce maximum score results.

Therefore, the use of technology is certainly very effective if used wisely in online teaching and learning activities properly and a learning method that can train self-taught learning to increase curiosity and increase students' interest in studying too.

According to Putri, C. P., Mayangsari, M. D., & Rusli, R. (2020) [19], students need to have a responsible, mature, independent attitude, and produce good achievements in completing their tasks, so that students' competencies and abilities in the academic field can be known. In addition, with the motivation to learn, even though lectures are carried out online, it will encourage student success in the online.

### **What the Government Has Done**

For the e-learning process to be done effectively, some facilities are required such as internet networks and electricity. Gunawan and Amaludin (2020) [21] stated that the government via the Ministry of Education and Culture Republic of Indonesia gave quota subsidies to educators and students. Zuraini and Nurhayati (2021) [22] stated with internet quota assistance of 50 GB (gigabytes) per student from the Ministry of Education and Culture Republic of Indonesia, this helped the students to access online learning platforms.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

From previous studies, it can be concluded that the e-learning system is

familiar in Indonesia. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, not every educational institution implemented an e-learning system. With the COVID-19 pandemic, every educational institution is required to implement an e-learning system. Educators and students are required to be able to use the e-learning platforms.

Online learning is effective if all users of e-learning platforms can master every feature in it. There will be some obstacles that are difficult to handle if educators and students are not familiar with the online learning system. With high learning motivation and willingness to learn new things, online learning could be successful.

Online learning can be implemented properly if the supporting facilities are well supported. In Indonesia, one of the ways that the government has done is by providing internet learning quotas for educators and students. This eases the burden for educators and student's parents to buy monthly internet quotas to fulfill online learning activities.

With online learning, the risk of the spread of COVID-19 will be reduced by maintaining social distance and minimizing people's travels.

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