

# Empowerment of Participation through Trash Processing Skills for the Independence of Community Behavior

Shomedran

Department of Non Formal Education

Faculty of Education

Universitas Negeri Padang

Padang, Indonesia

shomed16ut@gmail.com

**Abstract**—Implementation of participatory empowerment through trash processing activities into various skills performed at Trash Bank Manglayang Bandung. It is known that the empowerment activities are still able to survive with the participation of surrounding communities, despite the lack of understanding and skills of the community by utilizing the existing resources. Aspects of implementation, outcomes and accompaniment are focused on research objectives. Referring to the purpose of this research including qualitative descriptive research with data collection methods using observation, interview and documentation study. The basic concept is about participative empowerment, skills and concepts of self-reliance. The result of the research shows that the implementation of the activity has been running well is marked by the participation of the community in planning, socialization, implementation of activities, counseling and training, participation in routine activities of Trash Bank. Then there is a change in public behavior seen from their activities that no longer throw garbage carelessly, preserving the environment, depositing trash and participating in social activities and development. Assistance has been done by the manager well characterized by the provision of facilitation, strengthening, protection and support.

**Keywords**—*Empowerment, Participatory, Skills, Independence of Behavior*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Empowerment is an action to facilitate and encourage people to be able to position themselves proportionally so that individuals or community groups become independent. Community empowerment has a close relationship with sustainable development where community empowerment is a major prerequisite that will lead the community towards dynamic economic and social sustainability, as well as towards independence. To achieve community independence, a process and form

of empowerment is needed that can make society as a subject in empowerment activities, in this case participatory empowerment. Through the empowerment process, the community will gradually gain this ability, the community must undergo the process by participating in empowerment activities. Thus, power will be obtained and sufficient capacity will be accumulated to deliver community independence. What is expected from empowerment is a visualization of social development that is expected to create a good community and an independent society. Achieving self-reliance in the community related to behavioral independence requires an appropriate way. In this case the development of Indonesian human resources is felt necessary to be carried out through various empowerment activities so that the creation of quality, resilient, insightful human resources and has superiority and skills so that independence will be achieved in the community itself [1].

One form of education program outside of school is to conduct community empowerment programs through skill-giving activities, youth empowerment and training. Community empowerment activities carried out by the Trash Bank community include Trash recycling, skills training and Trash storage. In Indonesia, in general, garbage problems are still difficult to overcome. This is because the community has not realized the importance of environmental cleanliness. On the other hand, trash processing technology that is far from adequate. The impact of this is certainly very much, ranging from health hazards, environmental hygiene, flooding and pollution. People still throw household trash and industrial trash into roads, sidewalks, markets, rivers and the sea. It seems that these places have become 'giant trash bins' for people in disposing of garbage.

Trash is not something strange in our daily life, because we produce garbage every day. Trash is goods or objects that are discarded because they are no longer used. Based on [2] states that trash is material that has no value or is not valuable for ordinary or primary purposes in the manufacture, use of damaged or defective goods in the manufacture of manufacturing and excessive material or rejected or discharged. Whereas according to environmental terms for management, Encolink (1996) [3] mentions that trash an ingredient that is wasted or disposed of from sources of human activity or natural processes that have no economic value.

In the city of Bandung the average daily trash around 1,600 tons (www.nationalgeographic.co.id). Of that amount that can be transported to the Final Disposal Site around 1,200 tons and the rest is not transported, processed by residents and dumped in illegal landfills. Besides this, it is also not supported by adequate transport facilities and infrastructure. The number of garbage trucks currently available is 120 units, which should require around 140 units to reach 160 polling stations throughout Bandung. Whereas transportation on average TPS can be done three times a week. Whereas for plastic Trash produced in the city of Bandung which is around 150 tons per day, this shows about approximately 20 percent of the total garbage for each day (www.pikiran-rakyat.com).

Trash Bank is one of the institutions engaged in empowerment as one of the containers in processing waste, both organic and inorganic waste. This can be one solution to help reduce trash volume by recycling plastic trash and saving waste. Programs carried out at the Trash Bank such as processing trash into various crafts that have economic value are expected to help the surrounding community. Trash that is still scattered about is not supposed to be left alone, because with creativity and skill can turn plastic trash into money or have a resale value. Under these conditions, the Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang conduct participatory empowerment activities for the surrounding community as well as customers. The activities carried out are providing training, trash collection, giving skills to the community how to process trash into economic value products such as plastic bags, wallets, carpets, tissue boxes, flower beds, table cloths and public awareness activities.

Participatory empowerment conducted by Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang is a promising effort for saving the environment, community development and at the same time can have a positive impact if done with good management. This activity must certainly be assisted so that the program can be sustainable and long lasting so that the community does not become

dependent. Trash recycling empowerment activities conducted at the Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang have been started since 2008. This activity is carried out through a participatory empowerment approach. Through participatory empowerment efforts, the community is encouraged to have the ability to utilize resources that are optimally owned and fully involved in trash management and environmental conservation activities. Empowerment activities at the Trash Bank can still survive even though the activities are not donated by private or government institutions. The activities carried out in the beginning were the initiation of the community itself which was pioneered by several local residents, this is what attracted the program.

Community empowerment does not make people dependent on various charity programs. Because basically everything that is enjoyed must be produced on its own effort [4]. The community has an important role in the activity, in addition to producing trash every day the community is also directly involved in these activities. Through participatory empowerment, the community is expected to increase the independence of behavior and improve skills and public awareness so that these activities can run well and sustainable.

Community empowerment activities through trash recycling activities at the Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang which has been running for a long time with the concept of participatory empowerment is interesting to be studied and studied because in its development is something new and very useful for the community so it needs input according to its function. In general, this study aims to observe, study, analyze and describe participatory empowerment in the Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang. Specifically this study aims to find out data about; 1) implementation of participatory empowerment; 2) achievement of participatory empowerment results in building the independence of citizen behavior; and 3) monitoring carried out on community empowerment activities.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. Community Empowerment

Empowerment or empowerment in short can be interpreted as an effort to provide opportunities and abilities for community groups to participate, negotiate, influence, and control community institutions responsibly for the improvement of their lives. Empowerment is also defined as an effort to provide power (*empowerment*) or strength (*strength*) to the community. [5] explains that the goal to be achieved from community empowerment is to form

individuals and society to become independent. This independence includes independence of thinking, acting and controlling what they do. Community independence is a condition experienced by the community which is characterized by the ability to think, decide and do something that is deemed appropriate in order to achieve the solution to the problems faced by using the abilities possessed. Whereas according to [6], empowerment contains two key notions of power and weak groups. [7] provides empowerment to be viewed from the results as; "People gaining an understanding of and control over social, economic, and or political forces in order to improve their standing in society". This limitation emphasizes the final product of the empowerment process, that is, community members gain understanding and are able to control social, economic and political resources so that they can improve their position in society. So that it can be concluded that the core of community empowerment is the emergence of the power or strength in the low society that was originally unable to be able, which was initially passive to become active and who was initially powerless to be empowered. In other words, empowerment is an effort to build power by encouraging, motivating, and raising awareness of its potential and striving to develop it ([4]).

In line with this, [7] provides a clear role for non-formal education in the context of the empowering process, that the role of non-formal education not only changes individuals, but also groups, organizations and society. Non-formal education as an empowerment process implies a broad meaning and scope, namely increasing knowledge, attitudes, skills and other skills development towards independence of life. [8] explains that the role of non-formal education as an empowerment process includes increasing and changing human resources so that they are able to build their communities and environment.

### B. Independence

[9] independence is an individual attitude that is obtained cumulatively during development, individuals will continue to learn to be independent in dealing with various environmental situations so that individuals will eventually be able to think and act on their own with their independence. Independence (*self-reliance*) is a concept that is often associated with community development and empowerment. In this concept, development and empowerment programs are systematically designed so that individuals or communities are the subject of empowerment.

The values of independence owned by individuals will be perfect if supported by the characteristics of independence which includes psychosocial, cultural and economic self-reliance, initiative and entrepreneurial discipline, leadership and competition orientation. In the context of the world of independent work or independence comes with the development of work orientation, which leads to the attitude of entrepreneurs or entrepreneurs. Independent behavior is the basis of a person in improving the quality of work in his work, Sagir (in [10]). Independent souls grow and develop along with the growth of the concept of entrepreneurship. An entrepreneur must have the spirit of independence, in this case the spirit of entrepreneurship (independent) is determined by three main components that exist in a person who is willing, perseverance and tenacity ([11]).

[12] proposes three aspects of independence, namely emotional independence (*emotional autonomy*), behavioral independence (*behavioral autonomy*) and independence of values (*autonomy values*). Behavioral independence is an individual's ability to make choices or decisions to manage himself. There are three domains of behavioral independence according to [12], namely; a) has the ability to take decisions marked by being aware of the risks of his behavior, choosing alternative solutions to problems based on his own and others' judgment, responsible for the consequences of the decisions taken; b) has the power to influence the other party which is characterized by not easily affected by peer pressure and parents in making decisions, entering social groups without pressure; c) have a sense of self-confidence (self-reliance) which is characterized by feeling able to meet their daily needs, feel able to fulfill responsibilities, feel able to overcome their own problems and dare to express ideas or ideas.

### C. Participatory

Participation is an element that is often used by development circles and many are written in various guidelines or references for development programs and community empowerment. [13] suggests that participation is spontaneous involvement with awareness accompanied by responsibility for group interests to achieve common goals. Meanwhile, according to Goldon Allport (in [13] participation is the involvement of the ego or self or person or personality (*psychiatric*) more than just physical or physical.

In development activities and empowerment of participation is a manifestation of awareness and concern and responsibility of the community towards the importance of development that aims to improve their quality of life, meaning through participation

provided, means truly aware that development activities are not just obligations that must be carried out by the government itself but also demanded community involvement that would improve their quality of life.

### III. RESEARCH METHODS

The method used is descriptive qualitative research method, where researchers as key instruments, developed through the instruments used are observation, interviews and documentation. Informant sources are from the Garbage Bank management, the surrounding community or customers and local officials. Data source retrieval is done using a purposive technique, not strictly determined but depends on achievement or redundancy. Data analysis techniques were carried out using the Miles and Huberman (1984) model (in Sugiyono, 2010, p. 337). Activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and take place continuously until complete, so the data is saturated. The analytical activity carried out is by doing data reduction (*data reduction*), data presentation (*data display*) and conclusion drawing (*conclusion drawing/ verification*).

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### A. *Implementation of Participatory Empowerment in the Trash Bank Warga Manglayang*

Participation and involvement of community members in empowerment activities carried out at the Trash Bank Warga Manglayang are different. The findings of the study describe that their participation starts from actively running trash depositing activities, protecting the environment and community involvement through giving donations or loans in the form of objects. From the results of the research, it can be found that there are people who lend land as a place for biodegester processing of waste, and also a house as a place for Garbage Bank offices. This form is a tangible form of local participation in supporting the existence of the Trash Bank in their environment.

Research findings still have a group or individuals who have not been able to be active or even have not participated in empowerment activities. Some things that can affect a person's participation such as busyness, lack of understanding, and also the limited opportunities that they have, this becomes a number of factors residents cannot actively to continuously follow every activity carried out.

Another form of community participation in planning and formulating activities is contained in activities at the meeting of the PKK mothers, local government activities, the purpose of which is to seek agreement or discussion together in making and formulating empowerment activities to be carried out. The activity of planning and formulating this program aims to equalize perceptions, as a form of community aspiration in the form of providing input and real needs related to the potential that exists in the environment. Community participation is very important in the overall process of empowerment or development activities. Community participation in the empowerment program should cover the entire process from beginning to end. Therefore, [14] reveals that community participation can occur at four levels, namely: 1) Participation in the decision-making process; 2) Participation in implementation; 3) Participation in the utilization of results; and 4) Participation in evaluation.

Without exception, the existing community elements are involved in the formulation and planning of empowerment programs so that they can produce maximum results. The process of planning activities and formulation of trash recycling processing empowerment programs is carried out with several stages of planning ranging from knowing the potential and needs of the community, formulating goals, data collection as customers, preparing infrastructure, preparing locations, arranging programs and deciding the type of program to be run.

#### B. *Achievement of Participatory Empowerment Results in Building Community Behavioral Independence*

Research findings regarding the results generated from participatory empowerment for behavioral independence can be seen from the results of interviews and observations of respondents and citizen activities. The environmental conditions of the community are different from what they used to be as expressed by the Trash Bank management and the local apparatus, that the surrounding environment has been seen to be cleaner and safer, this is because of the awareness of the surrounding community in protecting the environment. The habits of the surrounding community who used to still have bad habits against garbage so that it pollutes the environment and endangers the environment, but after empowerment activities in the environment, the community members slowly experience changes in habits and have an awareness to protect the environment.

These conditions are inseparable from the opportunities given in community empowerment



carried out so far. Participatory empowerment has brought community members to participate and want to know about trash recycling activities so as to change their thinking patterns and habits. Related to this there are three domains of behavioral independence according to [12] has the ability to take decisions marked by being aware of the risks of his behavior, choosing alternative solutions to problems based on his own and others' judgment, responsible for the consequences of the decisions taken; b) has the power to influence the other party which is characterized by not easily affected by peer pressure and parents in making decisions, entering social groups without pressure; c) have a sense of self-confidence (*self-reliance*) which is characterized by feeling able to meet their daily needs, feel able to fulfill responsibilities, feel able to overcome their own problems and dare to express ideas or ideas.

### C. Monitoring Community Empowerment Activities

Monitoring activities carried out by managers towards empowerment activities are by providing facilitation, strengthening, protection and support. Activities carried out by managers that show that they are also assistants are by coordinating, providing information, solving problems, opening access for the community, establishing cooperation, providing training and skills in processing waste, carrying out daily operational tasks of the Trash Bank and conducting increased relations with the surrounding community. In relation to this, the companion role can be interpreted as a dynamic interaction between the lower group and social workers to jointly face challenges, as stated by [15].

Monitoring activities carried out by the manager towards community empowerment activities aim to provide convenience so that the community can become more independent in terms of handling household waste. The research findings suggest that so far they have made various efforts to always encourage their citizens to continue to carry out trash management activities continuously. The role of protector in mentoring, according to [15] concerning power, influence, authority, and social supervision reveals the duties of the protector.

## V. CONCLUSION

Participatory empowerment at the Trash Bank Wargi Manglayang in building the independence of community behavior has been seen to be going well

and achieving good results as well. This is supported by the implementation of participatory empowerment which is characterized by the involvement and participation of the community in the form of energy or participation in objects or goods, participating in planning, formulating and carrying out activities programs as well as a sense of ownership and community participation as managers. Then there has also been a change in the behavior of citizens to become more independent in responding to and handling waste. This is marked by citizens who are increasingly concerned about the environment and trash and participate in social activities and development in the surrounding environment. On the other hand mentoring has also been carried out well by the Trash Bank manager towards community empowerment activities regarding trash recycling, which is marked by the provision of facilitation, strengthening, protection and support.

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