

Reflective Learning on the Mainstreaming Strategy of the Children's Rights To Promote the Children-Friendly Village

Muhammad Taufiq¹, Junaidin², Rahmad Hidayat^{3*}

muhammad.taufiq@stisipbima.ac.id¹, junaidinmahmud724@gmail.com²,

rahidsmart@gmail.com^{3*}

^{1,2,3}Program Studi Ilmu Administrasi Negara

^{1,2,3}Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Sosial dan Politik Mbojo

Received: 21 11 2021. Revised: 03 01 2022. Accepted: 05 01 2022.

Abstrak : Program pengabdian masyarakat ini adalah upaya mempopulerkan konsep Desa Layak Anak (DLA) kepada pemerintahan desa dan warga sebagai medium pencurahan perhatian maksimal terhadap isu perkembangan anak melalui penciptaan lingkungan sehat dan penyediaan beragam fasilitas nyaman untuk mereka, yang telah dilaksanakan selama bulan Mei 2021 di Desa Oi Bura, Kecamatan Tambora, Kabupaten Bima, Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat dengan orientasi utama mendayagunakan kontribusi partisipan untuk mendorong aplikasi “Pengarusutamaan Hak Anak (PUHA)” di level desa melalui pemberian pemahaman atau elaborasi tentang substansi konseptual PUHA, identifikasi masalah anak di tingkat desa, dan perumusan road-map strategi pengembangan DLA sesuai batasan kemampuan mitra. Keberhasilan strategi PUHA dalam pengelolaan pembangunan desa sangat tergantung pada komitmen dan partisipasi semua pihak untuk pemenuhan hak anak di Desa Oi Bura yang sama sekali belum memenuhi enam indikator kelayakan sebagai DLA. Pembelajaran reflektif ini sangat efektif untuk mencapai tujuan yang telah ditetapkan dan akan direplikasi pelaksanaannya di desa-desa lain di masa mendatang.

Kata kunci : Anak, Desa, Hak, Pembangunan, Perlindungan.

Abstract : This community service program is an effort to popularize the concept of a Children-Friendly Village (CFV) to the village governments and residents as a medium for maximum attention to issues of childhood development through the creation of a healthy environment and the provision of various comfortable facilities for them, which has been conducted during May 2021 in the Oi Bura Village, Tambora Subdistrict, Bima District, West Nusa Tenggara Province with the main orientation of utilizing participant contributions to encourage “Mainstreaming Children's Rights (MCR)” applications at the village level through providing understanding or elaboration on the conceptual substance of MCR, problem identification of children at the village level, and formulating a road-map for the CFV development strategies according to the partners' capabilities. The success of the MCR strategy in managing the village development is highly dependent on the commitment and participation of all parties in the context of fulfilling children's rights in the Oi Bura Village, which have not met the six eligibility indicators as CFV at all. This reflective learning was effective

to achieve the defined goals and will be replicated in other villages in the future.

Keywords: Children, Village, Rights, Development, Protection.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

In the context of development, the paradigm of “Mainstreaming Children’s Rights (MCR)” is an effort made to place children's issues into development programs and link all development analyzes based on the principle of the best interests of the children, because they were frequently being the most disadvantaged party in miserable situations such as natural disasters, economic crisis, and environmental degradation (Dewi, 2012: 225). In general, the MCR principle requires the realization of children's rights in all spheres of their lives and guarantees the implementation of children's rights, both at the national, provincial, and district or city levels. MCR is a strategy for implementing children protection by integrating their rights into laws and regulations, policies, programs, activities and budgets, starting from the planning, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages with the principle of the best interests of the children. It requires the integration of the entire convention on children's rights and issues into every legislation, policy, activity, and national development program.

The achievements of MCR implementation lead to respect, fulfilment, and protection of children's rights through planning, preparation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of development policies and programs with a children perspective (Suyanto, 2008: 185). Its main goal is to ensure that young citizens or children are entitled to influencing decisions about their living space; express opinion; participate in family, social, and community lives; have access to basic health services, education and housing, water and sanitation; be protected against exploitation, violence and abuse; walk the streets safely, playing with friends, enjoy the green spaces for plants and animals, live in an environment polluted and environmentally sustainable; participate in social and cultural events, being loved, and to be citizens with equal access to all services regardless of ethnic origin, religion, social class, gender, or physical condition (de Azevedo, 2010: 53).

Apart from being used as a strategy for developing children welfare and protection, MCR is also used as an approach to developing children-friendly districts or cities and even Children-Friendly Villages (CFV) by generating certain public policies that aim to accommodate the primary needs of children and optimize their roles in the development of

their own social life. Sustainable development has an important role in creating children-friendly communities especially in designing neighbourhood open spaces to improve the children's health and wellbeing (Bagheri & Safavi, 2014: 35). Children have the right to be protected from all forms of exploitation, including being exploited through research processes and the dissemination of information (Ennew & Plateau, 2004).

Strategies that can be done to see whether MCR has been implemented or not, both in each policy and program are through (i) Identification and coordination between institutions and apparatus at all levels of government; (ii) Analysis of policies, programs, activities, budget allocations, and resource requirements; (iii) Development of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms; and (iv) Comprehensive review of all public policies, including laws and regulations, policies, and governance procedures in order to comply with the provisions of the Convention of the Rights of Children, taking into account (a) Dimensions of legal content (*content of law*), namely a written description or elaboration of a policy contained in the form of legislation; (b) Dimensions of legal governance (*structure of law*), namely all institutional and implementing instruments of the content of the applicable law; and (c) Dimensions of legal culture (*culture of law*), including perceptions, understandings, and attitudes of acceptance, practices of implementation, interpretations of the two aspects of the legal system above (Rahardjo, B., et. al., 2008: 13).

Regarding children's rights to life, growth and development, participation and protection, the Government of the Indonesian State have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Children through Presidential Decree No. 36/1990. Therefore, the government is obliged to follow up efforts to implement the fulfilment of children's rights effectively. To ensure the fulfilment of children's rights, serious efforts are needed from the government, society and the business parties through the establishment of CFV. It is an important initial stage in fulfilling the Convention on the Rights of the Children which has been agreed by the Government. At this stage, a mechanism will be formulated together with the mechanism that must be passed to create a CFV along with the requirements needed for implementation in the fields so that this process continues and develops which in the end the creation of a CFV can be fulfilled.

CFV is a process of creating villages that support the growth and development of children into children who can continue the glorious future of the Indonesian State. The mechanism for establishing CFV is conducted through various stages including preparation, planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting. CFV can be realized if all

stakeholder components work together and have a special strategy in creating awareness for children's rights. The chosen strategy will determine the next direction in building coordination with related parties because CFV development cannot be separated from understanding children's rights and empowerment of the community and the ability to coordinate with related parties. To make the formation of CFV effective, it is necessary to form a children-friendly Village Task Force whose membership includes elements of related institutions, representatives of children, the community, and as far as possible involving the business parties. The benchmarks for assessing the success of the Establishment of a children-friendly Village are conducted through the establishment of performance indicators as stated in the Regulation of State Minister for Women's Empowerment and Children Protection No. 13/2010.

At the level of practice and application, several weaknesses have emerged that affect the effectiveness of achieving the MCR principles in the development of CFV so far in Indonesia, namely that the CFV program tends to be terminated by the activists involved when development funds sourced from the government have run out. Added to this is the problem that there are still many stakeholders who are not concerned with the coherent mechanism of CFV development, where the process is not passed in stages, but goes straight to the final stage. Many of these stakeholders do not know where to start CFV development. Ignorance of this development stage causes CFV to be conducted sporadically with results that are often unclear and less than optimal. Even when a village has a children's forum, they claim to be a child-friendly village, even though that's not the only requirement for a village to be categorized as child-friendly.

In line with the substance of MCR as described above, the Implementer Team for the Community Service Program of STISIP Mbojo Bima has held an activity "Reflective Learning on the Mainstreaming Strategy of the Children's Rights-Based on Local Context to Promote children-friendly Village" for elements of village government officials and residents as a pilot effort to develop the Oi Bura Village, Tambora District, Bima District, West Nusa Tenggara Province into a Children-Friendly Village. This activity aimed to formulate a problem-based and local context-based MCR strategy that can be applied by program participants in the context of developing CFV. The utilization of program participants' contributions to encourage the application of MCR in the implementation of development and community tasks at the village level was the basic outcome of this activity.

SOLUTION AND TARGET

The Oi Bura village, which was positioned as the implementing location of this Community Service Program, is a village that was formed in 2007 as a result of the division of the main village 'Labuhan Kananga'. It consists of three Hamlets, namely Sori Bura, Tambora, and Jembatan Besi. In 2016, the population of this village was 650 people or 160 families (KK). 10% of them (16 families) are immigrants from Bali and of course, are Hindus. Oi Bura Village is 194 km from the Bima District Government Center. The location of the Oi Bura Village which is somewhat "isolated" also completes the series of complexities of life felt by its residents. The high level of poverty, the inadequacy of infrastructure conditions supporting the activities and mobility of villagers, the absence of ownership of the population identity of most people, the lack of serious attention from the local government in utilizing village potential, and the absence of adequate health and education service facilities have increasingly caused the Oi Bura Village to lag far behind compared to other villages in Bima District (Hidayat, 2018: 92). As a complement to the characteristics of being left behind, this village has not yet shown general characteristics as a village that is worthy of being inhabited by the children.

This Community Service Program aimed to identify opportunities for developing CFV through participatory mechanisms and involving more actors in the village. Participants who come from elements of the village government apparatus and residents will be equipped with technical knowledge of local context-based CFV development. All stages of the Reflective Learning Facilitation activity on MCR have been organized by the Program Team by prioritizing the participation of several village government officials and residents in the Oi Bura Village as program partners. The utilization of participants' contributions to encourage the application of MCR in the implementation of development and community tasks at the village level must be supported by providing an understanding or elaboration of the conceptual substance of MCR, identifying children's problems at the village level, and formulating a road-map for CFV development strategies according to the partners' capabilities. The desired outcome at the end of this Community Service Program is the formation of a CFV Task Force by involving village government officials and residents of the Oi Bura Village, including other parties in Bima District who are concerned with MCR issues. It is hoped that the existence of the CFV Task Force will be recognized by the Head of the Oi Bura Village through the issuance of a Decree and will work on implementing the CFV development strategy roadmap in the future.

METHOD OF IMPLEMENTATION

This Community Service activity has been conducted during May 2021, which began with the coordination step of the Implementor Team with relevant stakeholders on May 12, 2021, to discuss the design of the "MCR Reflective Learning Facilitation" program. The coordination was mainly directed to the Oi Bura Village Head, the Head of the Village Consultative Board (*Badan Permusyawaratan Desa/BPD*), and several residents. Based on that coordination results, the Implementor Team then harmonized the tentative schedule of community service activities that have been prepared previously with the readiness and free time of program participants for the effectiveness and efficiency of all stages of Community Service. The main approach applied in the implementation stage on May 23, 2021, was lectures, discussions, and/or brainstorming. This program, of course, requires the participation and dedication of program participants. Achieving maximum program results requires their active involvement in all stages. The contribution of participants, both material and non-material, is an absolute prerequisite for determining the effectiveness and efficiency of community service.

RESULTS AND OUTPUTS

The implementation of this reflective learning facilitation began with a meeting for further socialization of the conceptual substance of MCR to program participants to support the dissemination of information that had been previously conveyed at the community service planning stage on May 12, 2021. The follow-up socialization was held on May 23, 2021, at the Village Office Hall, which was attended by 25 participants, 14 men and 11 women from the village government official and residents. Certain figures also included their children present in that meeting.

The facilitators emphasized several things that intersect with the MCR issue by affirming that CFV can be positioned as one of the village development programs that unite the commitment and resources of the village government, community and business community in the village to respect, guarantee, fulfil children's rights, protect children from acts of violence, exploitation, abuse and discrimination, and hear children's opinions, which are planned consciously, thoroughly and sustainably. In other words, CFV reflects the unification of village government commitments and resources involving the community and the business community in the village to promote, protect, fulfil and respect children's rights, which are planned consciously and sustainably.

CFV is one of the strategies to Mainstream the Rights of the Children (MCR) in the realm and context of the village. MCR is positioned as a foothold in implementing policies, programs, or activities rationally and systematically to achieve children protection and development. The focus of MCR is of course focused on children as rights holders. Children should be encouraged to play an active role in providing input throughout the process of formulating policies, programs, activities and even budgeting. They should get facilitation for the availability of access and appropriate information according to their age and maturity. Children should also be given the skills to channel and convey expressions in such a way that they are heard, valued and considered by decision-makers at various levels, including the village level.

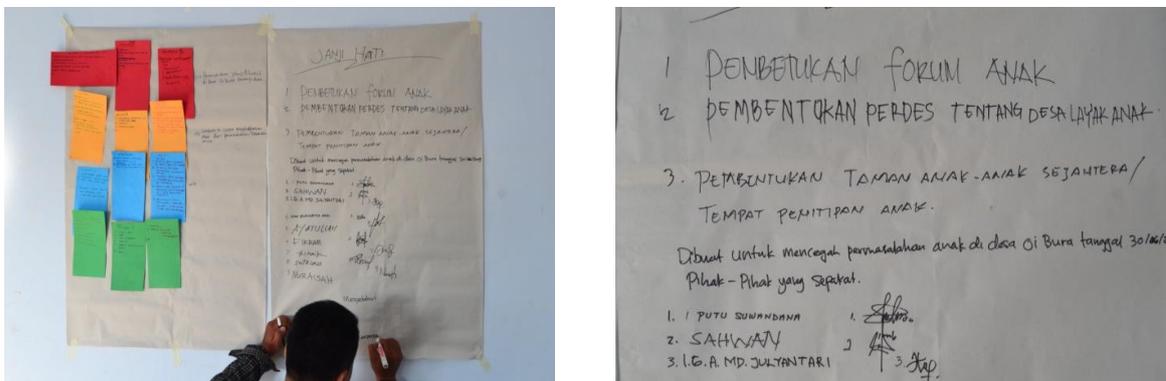


Picture 1. The follow-up socialization about the rights of children

The facilitators then conducted a Social Analysis session to identify the various problems of children in the Oi Bura Village, accompanied by the Formulation of a Road-Map Strategy for CFV Development following the Partner's Capability Limits. The facilitators stated that the problem was a mismatch between ideal and actual conditions or between what should have been and what had been achieved. The problem or issue of fulfilling children's rights in the development of CFV is in the form of a mismatch between ideal conditions in fulfilling children's rights and actual conditions for fulfilling children's rights or between conditions that should be fulfilled in fulfilling children's rights and conditions for achieving the fulfilment of children's rights where many children's rights are not fulfilled or not according to the target that has been set. Identification of the problem of fulfilling children's rights is the introduction of problems or an inventory of problems in the fulfilment of children's rights in five clusters of children's rights. The problem of fulfilling children's rights can be found through literature studies or field observations (observations, or surveys).

Problem identification is needed for the development of CFV in the context of Mainstreaming Children's Rights (MCR) in the Oi Bura Village. By identifying the problem,

the position of the program can be seen from the description of the existing conditions for the fulfilment of children's rights, strategic issues, as well as analyzing the role and institutional mechanisms for the development of CFV. Identification of children's problems in the Oi Bura Village, then directed by the facilitators by distributing special instruments containing CFV indicators, in which program participants make assessments or statements about whether or not certain indicators are fulfilled, referring to experiences or observations of the conditions in the Oi Bura Village so far. The instrument contains forty-four indicators as the derivation of six Children Rights Groups, namely (i) Institutional; (ii) Civil Rights and Liberties; (iii) Family Environment and Alternative Parenting; (iv) Basic Health and Welfare; (v) Education, Utilization of Leisure and Cultural Arts activities; and (vi) Special Protection.



Picture 2. Social Analysis and Formulation of the CFV Development Strategies

Based on the results of the participants' entries on the list of CFV indicators and the discussion that followed, it can be concluded that almost all of the indicators have not been met and have proven their application in village development governance that has been conducted so far by the Village Government and the residents of the Oi Bura Village so that this village escapes the category of children-friendly Village. What actions must be taken by all parties for the development of Oi Bura Village as a CFV is then jointly formulated by the participants and facilitators in the form of a Road-Map of the CFV Development Strategies? At the end of the activity session, the facilitators told the participants about some important points as a result of the whole process. In a participatory manner, the facilitators asked all participants to observe and agree on what was a summary of the results of the activities that have been conducted.

After conducting that formal meeting, till the end of May 2021, the Team then evaluated the outcome of the MCR Reflective Learning Facilitation to measure its effectiveness for encouraging the realization of CFV in the Oi Bura Village. If the level of success of this program was adequate, the target audience segment for this community service

would be expanded, not limited to one village, but also targeting other villages in Bima District. In other words, the shortcomings, limitations, and obstacles encountered in this community service would also be a separate evaluation material to perfect the intervention strategy in the same village in the future. This reflective learning on MCR and CFV issues was effective to achieve the defined goals, and it will be replicated and/or scaled up in other villages within the same district in the future.

CONCLUSION

CFV must be created and used as a medium for maximum attention to issues of childhood development. This concept reflects the existence of a village that cares for children through the provision of safe and comfortable facilities for them. Government and community support is the main prerequisite for developing such village characteristics by facilitating the creation of a healthy environment for children. The development of CFV relies on the commitment of the village government and the community to implement the vision, mission, policies, programs, activities, and development institutions that care, are sensitive, and take sides in the best interests of the children and ensure the fulfilment of the rights of children in the village so that children can live, grow, develop, also participate optimally following human dignity. An important factor that must be remembered is that the development of CFV is not only the responsibility of the Village Government alone but the responsibility of all parties including the citizens. For this reason, strengthening the Village Community Institutions to be able to act as a *balancing* element and the originator of the idea of developing CFV in the Oi Bura Village is very necessary. The advocacy forum held by villagers plays a strategic role in accelerating and controlling CFV development at every stage. One of the important key factors that cannot be ignored is the commitment of the Village Head, and in the development stage of the CFV, the activity of preparing the Children's Data Baseline is very necessary because it will produce a map of children's problems.

The success of the MCR strategy in managing village development is highly dependent on the commitment and participation of all parties in the context of fulfilling children's rights. The Village Government must welcome the intentions and initiatives of external parties to develop the Oi Bura Village as a CFV, acknowledge the existence of the CFV Development Task Force that has been formed and support every activity it undertakes,

as well as carry out collective monitoring and evaluation so that the objectives of the children protection program and the development of CFV can be achieved properly.

REFERENCES

- Bagheri, M., & Safavi, S. (2014). The Role of Sustainable Development in Child-Friendly Communities to Improve Children's Health and Well-Being (Case Study: Zanjan City, Iran). *Journal of Civil Engineering and Urbanism*, 4, 35-40.
- De Azevedo, A. J. A. (2010, November). The City "Children Friendly": Evaluation of Quality of Life and Emotional Connection to City Second Perspective of Children (9-12 Years). In *3rd Annual EuroMed Conference of the EuroMed Academy of Business*, 49-62.
- Dewi, S. P. (2012). How Does the Playground Role in Realizing Children-Friendly City? *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 38, 224-233.
- Ennew, J., & Plateau, D. P. (2004). *How to Research the Physical and Emotional Punishment of Children*. Bangkok: International Save the Children Southeast, East Asia and Pacific Region Alliance.
- Hidayat, R. (2018). Segregasi Residensial dan Intersubyektivitas Kewarganegaraan Masyarakat Desa Oi Bura Kecamatan Tambora Kabupaten Bima. *Journal of Governance*, 3(1), 80-100.
- Rahardjo, B., et. al. (2008). *Konsep dan Pengertian Pengarusutamaan Hak Anak*. Jakarta: Kementerian Negara Pemberdayaan Perempuan Republik Indonesia.
- Suyanto, B. (2008). *Pengarusutamaan Hak Anak di Daerah*. Surabaya: Unesa.