

Improving the Capability of Voting Organizer Group Officers in Renon Village for the 2024 Elections through Integrated Technical Guidance

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Abstract: Elections are a pillar of Indonesian democracy that requires transparent, fair, and efficient organization. Based on observations, Renon Village frequently faces challenges in the implementation of elections related to the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers. Therefore, these issues need to be mitigated by enhancing the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers. This community service activity aims to improve the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers in conducting the 2024 elections in Renon village. The capability enhancement involves increasing the knowledge and insight of Voting Organizer Group officers in effectively conducting the voting process. The target of this community service activity is 20 Voting Organizer Group members. The method used in this activity is Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). The results of the service activities show that the capability of Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon village was successfully improved through technical guidance activities. The Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village enhanced their knowledge regarding voting procedures, the use of electronic equipment, and other technical aspects. Therefore, the positive results of this service confirm that the Integrated technical guidance approach is an effective solution to enhance the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village, contributing positively to the organization of the 2024 Elections at the local level.

Keywords: capability; community service; technical guidance

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INTRODUCTION

The administration of elections is a fundamental pillar in the foundation of the democratic process in Indonesia. This five-year event involves hundreds of millions of Indonesians in directly electing the president, members of the DPR (House of Representatives), DPD

(Regional Representative Council), and DPRD (Regional House of Representatives). High-quality election implementation demands honesty, transparency, accountability, accuracy, and precision (Taufiqurrahman & Amal, 2022). Thus, it is understood that a fair election is determined by accurate vote

counting and the overall quality of the administration (Ilhamsyah et al., 2023). Elements such as honesty, transparency, accountability, accuracy, and precision play crucial roles in determining the integrity and legitimacy of an election.

However, several studies show that election administration in Indonesia is still often marked by cases of malpractice (Alfa & Fahmi, 2022; Fachriza & Wibowo, 2023; Febriansyah et al., 2022; Fithria et al., 2022; Husin et al., 2019; Mariska & Kusmanto, 2020; Tongari et al., 2021; Wopari & Ohoiwutun, 2021). Various violations occurring during the voting and counting processes can undermine the election's legitimacy and cause public distrust in the election process and its results. Therefore, fair and swift law enforcement can be used to restore the rights of those who have been wronged in cases of violations (Awaluddin, 2019). To anticipate potential malpractice, the administration of the 2024 elections needs to enhance its monitoring system, especially at the local level.

Renon Village, located in the center of Denpasar, Bali, plays a strategic role in the local democratic process. With 8,627 residents registered on the permanent voter list (DPT), Renon Village is a critical location in determining the direction of democracy in the area. Based on interviews with the head of the Polling Station Working Group (Voting Organizer Group) of Renon Village in 2019, several issues were found during the election. These issues were related to a need for coordination, leading to misunderstandings among members. The community service team found that the individuals involved as Voting Organizer Group officers in the 2014 election were entirely new and had no prior experience. This increases the likelihood of election malpractice occurring.

The potential issues require an effective mitigation strategy. Referring to the identified problems, the service team designed technical guidance targeting Voting Organizer Group members. This strategy was chosen based on the findings of Yustafida (2020), which showed that Voting Organizer Group members who participated in the technical guidance had a uniform technical understanding of proper election administration, thus minimizing the likelihood of miscommunication. Additionally, through technical guidance, Voting Organizer Group officers can receive accurate, easy-to-use, well-written, and easily understood instructions regarding election administration.

The general goal of this community service activity is to enhance the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers. This enhancement involves increasing their knowledge and insight into effectively conducting the voting process. The technical guidance includes intensive training on voting equipment, the use of current technology, and vote-counting procedures. Furthermore, technical guidance emphasizes active involvement and good coordination among Voting Organizer Group members, enabling them to collectively tackle challenges and ensure the integrity of the voting process.

Similar community service activities have been conducted by Fitriani (2018) in Gresik, Ilhamsyah et al. (2023) in Naga Raya Regency (Panwascam), and Ariastuti et al. (2024) in Tegal Harum Village Denpasar. These activities showed that technical guidance successfully gave election supervisors a good understanding of elections and motivated Panwaslu to oversee elections at the sub-district level directly, generally, freely, confidentially, honestly, and fairly (LUBER-JURDIL). It is hoped that this community service activity will yield similar results.

With the effective implementation of technical guidance, Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village are expected to perform their duties more professionally, improve the quality of the voting process, and reduce the potential for malpractice during the 2024 election process. The technical guidance is expected to be a key instrument in preparing Voting Organizer Group officers to face various challenges that may arise during the 2024 election in Renon Village.

METHOD

Implementing this community service activity in Renon Village uses the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) method. Therefore, all activities focus on empowering Voting Organizer Group members to address problems they will face in Renon Village. Overall, this activity is divided into the following four major stages:

1. Planning Stage

At this stage, the service team conducted interviews and observations with the head of the PPS Denpasar Selatan Renon Village to identify the common challenges Voting Organizer Group members faced during the 2019 election. Based on the interviews and observations, a frequent problem in previous elections was the need for more understanding and ability to perform duties as Voting Organizer Group members. As an introduction, during the approach, the service team provides a general explanation of how to enhance the capabilities and understanding of Voting Organizer Group members through socialization aimed at supporting their successful task execution. During this stage, the service team also drafted a socialization plan that all Voting Organizer Group members can follow through the technical guidance to support successfully executing their duties in Renon Village.

2. Implementation Stage

The implementation of this socialization program focused on enhancing the understanding of Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village through integrated technical guidance so that they would have a clearer knowledge of the 2024 election. The activity, which involved 20 Voting Organizer Group officers, was scheduled at Wantilan Renon Village on January 25, 2024, from 3:00 PM WITA until completion.

The socialization covered several aspects. First, an introduction to the general definition, notably a broad overview of elections. Second, understanding the stages of the 2024 election. Third, there are requirements for being a voter in the election. Fourth, understanding the voter registration procedure. Fifth, knowledge about the ballot papers. Sixth, we need to understand the election laws in Indonesia. By focusing on these aspects, the program aims to provide a solid knowledge foundation for Voting Organizer Group officers, ensuring they are prepared and competent in performing their duties during the 2024 election voting process.

3. Supervision Stage

During the supervision stage, Voting Organizer Group members' understanding and capabilities in the Renon Village technical guidance are monitored. This ensures that Voting Organizer Group officers understand their duties during the election.

4. Evaluation Stage

The evaluation stage assesses the increase in participants' knowledge after delivering the material. This stage includes a formal assessment and a post-test. The general workflow of this community service activity is illustrated in Figure 1.

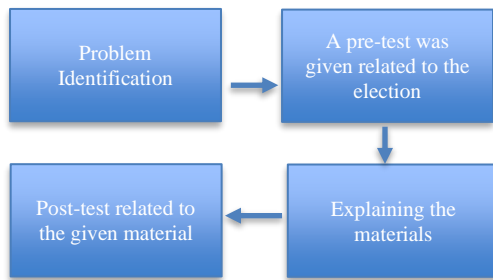


Figure 1 Community service activity workflow

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community service activity aimed at enhancing the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village for the 2024 Election through Integrated technical guidance was conducted at Wantilan Renon Village on January 25, 2024, at 3:00 PM WITA. The event started on time and was attended by Voting Organizer Group officers from Renon Village.

After the Voting Organizer Group officers entered the technical guidance forum, the service team distributed pre-test forms to measure the knowledge level of Voting Organizer Group members regarding the 2024 election. The pre-test, conducted 10 minutes before the start of the technical guidance activity, involved 20 Voting Organizer Group officers. The pre-test results are shown in Table 1. The technical guidance material presentation began and lasted for 60 minutes, as illustrated in Figure 2.



Figure 2 The technical guidance implementation

The material covered during the socialization included an introduction to the general definition, particularly a broad overview of elections. Second, understanding the stages of the 2024 election. Third, there are requirements for being a voter in the election. Fourth, understanding the voter registration procedure. Fifth, knowledge about the ballot papers. Sixth, we need to understand the election laws in Indonesia. With an understanding of these six topics, Voting Organizer Group officers are expected to perform their duties efficiently, provide accurate guidance to voters, ensure a smooth election process, and comply with applicable legal regulations, thus supporting the creation of fair, transparent, and accountable elections. An example of the technical guidance material can be seen in Figure 3.



Figure 3 Community service technical guidance material

During the technical guidance activities, the participants, who were Voting Organizer Group officers from Renon Village, engaged in interactive sessions that included presentations, discussions, and Q&A sessions. The service team provided in-depth explanations of every aspect of the 2024 election, from the general definition of elections to election laws in Indonesia. The material was delivered in a structured and easy-to-understand manner to ensure participants' optimal comprehension.

The participants' reactions during the technical guidance varied, ranging from enthusiasm in following the material to

increased interest as their understanding grew. Some participants were encouraged to ask more questions or share experiences related to the topics discussed. With active interaction between participants and presenters, the atmosphere of the activity was dynamic and spirited. This positive reaction indirectly reflects that the technical guidance was well conducted.

After the technical guidance presentation and discussion sessions, post-test forms were distributed. The post-test was given again to measure the impact of the technical guidance on the Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village regarding their understanding of the election definition, stages of the 2024 election, voter eligibility requirements, ballot paper knowledge, and election laws in Indonesia. The pre-test and post-test results can be seen in Table 1.

With the drastic increase in the percentage of participants answering

"Yes" after the technical guidance, it can be concluded that the training successfully changed the Voting Organizer Group officers' paradigm. The role of technical guidance in enhancing the quality of the 2024 election administration in Renon Village became more apparent through significant changes in participant attitudes. The transformation from scepticism to support indicates that technical guidance provided a space for deeper understanding built strong confidence, and inspired participants to be more actively involved in performing their duties as election officers.

The positive impact generated affects not only the individual level but also the overall democratic process, creating a more transparent, inclusive, and participative environment in Renon Village and contributing to better and more responsible democratic practices at the village level.

Table 1 Pre-test and post-test technical guidance results

No	Indicator Aspect	Responses			
		Pre-test		Post-test	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Knowledge of election definition	45%	55%	100%	0%
2	Knowledge of the 2024 election stages	81%	19%	100%	0%
3	Knowledge of 2024 election timing	30%	70%	100%	0%
4	Knowledge of voter requirements for 2024 election	40%	60%	100%	0%
5	Knowledge of voter age requirements for the 2024 election	70%	30%	100%	0%
6	Knowledge of WNI requirements listed in the Final Voter List	35%	65%	100%	0%
7	Knowledge of ballot types	25%	85%	100%	0%
8	Knowledge of ballot colours in the Presidential Election	80%	20%	100%	0%
9	Knowledge of the community's role in elections	65%	35%	100%	0%
10	Knowledge of reporting election findings for the 2024 election	20%	80%	95%	5%
Average		49.1 %	51.9%	99%	1%

The success of the integrated technical guidance activity in Renon Village can be attributed to several factors. First, thorough and detailed planning before the activity ensured that every aspect was well-prepared. Second, aligning the material presented with the

participants' needs and comprehension levels allowed them to understand relevant topics deeply. Third, the interactive and structured training method provided opportunities for participants to actively engage, ask questions, and discuss, reinforcing the

understanding provided. Fourth, the full support from the service team and the active participation of Voting Organizer Group officers also played a role in the successful implementation of technical guidance. With this combination of factors, the integrated technical guidance activity ran smoothly and as planned, positively impacting the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers for the 2024 Election. The results of this community service activity are in line with those conducted by Diastri (2021), Ilhamsyah et al. (2023), and Nastia (2024), which show that technical guidance activities can improve the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers in organizing elections.

Therefore, the success of this integrated technical guidance is expected to reduce the risk of insufficient knowledge and information regarding the 2024 Election and ensure the smoothness and integrity of the election process through more comprehensive and responsible officer involvement.

CONCLUSION

Based on the implementation of this integrated technical guidance, it can be concluded that the technical guidance activities for Voting Organizer Group officers have successfully enhanced the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers in Renon Village. This improvement is expected to increase the capabilities of Voting Organizer Group officers to prevent errors or lack of information and awareness in every election. The recommendation for community service through technical guidance and training for all Voting Organizer Group members is that before the election arrives, technical guidance should always be conducted by both the central regional KPU and PPS in each subdistrict so that Voting Organizer Group officers can perform their duties well. This will positively impact the

local community and minimize errors in previous elections.

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