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# Community Activities in Maintaining the Sustainability of the Martapura River in Banua Anyar District

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#### **Abstrak**

Aktivitas masyarakat tentunya sangat beragam, dari berbagai macam aktivitas sedikit banyaknya ada yang membawa pengaruh bagi keberlangsungan ekosistem lingkungan. Satu diantaranya aktivitas masyarakat dalam menjaga kelestarian sungai, karena sungai merupakan komponen penting kelangsungan hidup manusia. Hal ini tercermin pada aktivitas masyarakat dalam menjaga kelestarian Sungai Martapura di kelurahan Banua Anyar. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan aktivitas masyarakat dalam menjaga kelestarian sungai Martapura di kelurahan Banua Anyar. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif. Data didapatkan melalui observasi, wawancara dan dokumentasi. Uji keabsahan data melalui triangulasi sumber, teknik, dan waktu. Data disajikan dalam bentuk deskripsi dan dilengkapi gambar. Hasil penelitian yaitu adanya masyarakat kelurahan Banua Anyar sudah mulai sadar akan pentingnya menjaga lingkungan, sehingga mereka melakukan berbagai upaya untuk mengatasi berbagai permasalahan yang terjadi di lingkungannya. Dengan adanya kegiatan kerja bakti, kegiatan pembagian tempat sampah serta kegiatan pembuatan WC sebagai pengganti jamban yang akan mengurangi pencemaran sungai Martapura. Jika hal demikian dilakukan secara berkesinambungan maka pencemaran sungai akan segera teratasi dan sungai dapat dimanfaatkan dengan semestinya.

Kata Kunci: Aktivitas, Masyarakat dan Kelestarian Sungai

### Abstract

Community activities are very diverse from various activities; more or less, some influence the sustainability of the environmental ecosystem. One of them is community activities to preserve the river because the river is an essential component of human survival. This is reflected in community activities preserving the Martapura River in the Banua Anyar village. This study describes community activities in preserving the Martapura river in Banua Anyar village. This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive method—data obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation. Test the validity of the data through triangulation of sources, techniques, and time. The data is presented in the form of a description and is accompanied by a picture. The results of the research are that the people of Banua Anyar village have begun to realize the importance of protecting the environment, so they make various efforts to overcome various problems that occur in their environment. With the community

# Mastiah, Mahmudah Hasanah, Muhammad Adhitya Hidayat Putra, Rusmaniah, Muhammad Ridha Ilhami

service activities, the distribution of trash bins and the activity of making toilets as a substitute for latrines will reduce pollution of the Martapura river. If this is done on an ongoing basis, river pollution will soon be resolved, and rivers can be used properly. The distribution of trash bins and the activity of making toilets as a substitute for latrines will reduce pollution of the Martapura river. If this is done on an ongoing basis, river pollution will soon be resolved, and rivers can be used properly. The distribution of trash bins and the activity of making toilets as a substitute for latrines will reduce pollution of the Martapura river. If this is done on an ongoing basis, river pollution will soon be resolved, and rivers can be used properly.

Keywords: Activities, Community, and River Preserving

### **PRELIMINARY**

Indonesia is identical to its territorial waters. Even each island is surrounded by sea and ocean waters. So do not be surprised if each region has many tributaries. One of them is the area of South Kalimantan. Especially Banjarmasin, which is dubbed as the city of a thousand rivers, where in almost every area there are tributaries. Rivers are very easy to find in various places, and rivers are also familiar objects, even though the classes of rivers are different (Abbas, et. al, 2022).

Rivers have an essential role in human life, especially for people who live on riverbanks. They are directly related to the river, and even the activities people do are related to the river. A river is a place where land meets river water. This area is dynamic, strategic, unique in a city, and easily accessible by land or river (TP Putra et al., 2016). Activities carried out by the Community along the river are bathing, washing, restrooms and drinking. The Community can carry out this activity if the river in their area is still suitable for use and is not polluted (Abbas et al., 2019). Society plays a vital role in preserving the environment. As human beings who are intelligent and virtuous, they are required to instill a sense of love for the environment. Society is an object that can be embraced in acting and behaving. It is undeniable that society has various characteristics of its own in behaving.

Rivers are one of the essential ecosystems for humans. This ecosystem is influenced by various activities, both biological activities and human activities. Especially the area around the river or what is often called the Watershed (DAS) (Fadjarajani et al., 2018). Related to this, the river plays an essential role in the life of the people in the city of Banjarmasin. However, along with the development of the era, rivers are increasingly abandoned and polluted due to irresponsible human activities (Rusli et al., 2021). The problems that occur are, of course, not only because of one or two people, but almost some people do not care about environmental sustainability. Even for the waste problem, our country has not been able to solve the problem completely.

This article describes community activities in preserving the Martapura river in Banua Anyar village. Activities carried out by the Community in preserving the Martapura river are

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by holding community service activities to clean up garbage and the environment where they live (Subiyakto et al., 2022). The activity of distributing trash bins to the Community to get used to throwing garbage in its place. Moreover lastly, the activity of making toilets as a substitute for latrines to reduce river pollution due to human waste (Mutiani et al., 2022). Of course, this is also supported by the cooperation of the local government and the Community so that river pollution is immediately resolved and it can maintain the sustainability of the Martapura river in the Banua Anyar village.

# **METHOD**

This research method uses the descriptive qualitative method. This research method makes it easier for researchers to examine various community activities. The descriptive research method can describe everything related to the Community's activities along the Martapura River in Banua Anyar Village. So in this study, the researchers were directed to obtain various facts that occurred in the field related to community activities in preserving the Martapura River. Data collection was carried out through the observation stage on the banks of the Martapura river, which focused only on RT 01 to RT. 03 in Banua Anyar Village.

Interviews were conducted with the Lurah, the Head of the RT, and the RT community. 01 to RT.03, who live on the banks of the Martapura river. One of the data sources chosen was the Banua District Office cleaning task force, namely Syam'iyah. The following informants were the people living on the banks of the Martapura River, Siti Rohani, Yuli, Yati, Komariah Nursih, Imut, Ratnaniar, and Murniah. Another informant from the environmental ambassador of Banua Anyar sub-district is Syarwani. Activity Data analysis is based on the concept used by Miles and Huberman that the activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and take place continuously until completion (Rijali, 2019). The interactive model data analysis techniques, according to Miles and Huberman, include: data reduction following research objectives, the presentation of the data is narrative which makes it easier for researchers to understand what is happening in the field, supported by pictures of activities carried out by the Community and finally concluding. The validity of the data by triangulation of sources, techniques, and time triangulation (Wijaya, 2018). Triangulation of sources with different sources, namely to the Community and the head of the RT. The triangulation technique is done by observation and interviews and is evidenced by documentation. Time triangulation was carried out at different times, namely in the morning, afternoon and evening. This was done to obtain data on the activities carried out by the Community in preserving the Martapura river in the Banua Anyar village.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Activities are activities, activities, or work activities carried out by organizations or institutions (Depdiknas, 2014). According to sociology, activities are all forms of activities carried out by the Community, such as cooperative activities, cooperation, and so on (Jamaluddin et al., 2020). These activities are referred to as social activities related to relations between neighbors or kinship. According to John J. Macioni (Listyorini et al., 2021), a Community is a large number of people who live in the same area; a mutual Community is a process carried out by the Community in various activities to improve or produce something for a particular purpose.

According to sociology, activity is all forms of activities carried out by the Community, such as cooperative activities, cooperation, and so on (Andayani et al., 2020). Sustainability is a based effort, so this basis is what is called the factors that support it both from within and outside what is being preserved (Mutiani, 2020). Sustainability is interpreted as an effort through a process and a way to maintain and protect something that is not polluted or time-consuming (Fadjarajani et al., 2018). So that the community service activities, the distribution of trash bins, and the manufacture of toilets as substitutes for latrines are in line with the explanation above. These activities are the efforts of the Banua Anyar Village community to preserve the Martapura River.

# 1. Community Service / Mutual Cooperation

Community service is an activity that is carried out together to clean the surrounding environment from various garbage and other impurities. This is done so that the environment where people live is cleaner. In this regard, the community service of Banua Anyar Village also has the same goal: to make their living environment cleaner and more comfortable.

Based on observations, community service was conducted to foster public awareness regarding the importance of maintaining river sustainability because rivers play an essential role in human life. The District Office conducts community service to invite the Community to participate in these activities. So that they can cooperate in preserving the Martapura river. Interviews were conducted with S (52 years old, head of RT.01) and S (63 years, chairman of RT.02); they showed that the Community was asked to participate in the community service activities. So that if it continues to do so, people's awareness of the importance of maintaining rivers and the environment in which they live will grow. This community service activity also creates social interactions between the Community and other communities (Abbas & Subiyakto, 2022).

Figure 1. Community Service Cleaning Garbage on the Riverbank



Source: Personal Documentation (January, 2022)

The results of observations on January 10, 2022. It is a community service activity carried out by the Community in collaboration with the District Office and the Banjarmasin City Environmental Service (DLH) in the Martapura Bungas River community service program. This community service was carried out on the banks of the Martapura River; more precisely, the community service was carried out in RT.03. Cleaning the garbage on the banks of the river and some plants on the banks of the river are also cleaned so that the river is cleaner.

# 2. Activities for Distributing Trash Cans to the Community

The trash can accommodates temporary waste made of metal, plastic, or used tires. Trash cans are generally stored in the kitchen to dispose of leftovers for kitchen needs, but there is also a trash can placed in front of the house to make it easier for the garbage collector to take it to the final disposal site.

Based on the narrative of LR (34), as a resident of RT.02 who does not receive the distribution of trash bins, she often throws garbage into the trash can near her house. His statement was confirmed by N (42), who received the distribution of trash bins; people near his house often threw garbage in the trash can in front of his house. After the garbage is complete, then it is transported using Tossa. Garbage is transported three times a week by paying Rp. 15,000 per month.

Based on the narrative above, the Banua Anyar Village has provided a place to make it easier for the Community, thereby reducing waste disposal into river bodies. This can reduce river pollution problems because the river is one of the essential ecosystems for human life (Putra et al., 2021). However, along with the times and increasing population growth, various problems occur, one of which is river problems caused by irresponsible human activities (Subiyakto, 2018). So that the activities carried out by the Banua Anyar community are an effort to preserve the river so that various river problems can be immediately resolved.

# Mastiah, Mahmudah Hasanah, Muhammad Adhitya Hidayat Putra, Rusmaniah, Muhammad Ridha Ilhami

Figure 2. Trash Cans Distributed to the Community



Source: Personal Documentation (January, 2022)

From the documentation in January 2022, it can be seen that the trash bin is made of used tires. This trash can is placed in the yard of one of the residents. Several residents also collected garbage at the place, which was confirmed by interviews with I (40) and M (54), who are residents of Banua Anyar village.

Figure 3. Waste Transport Using Tossa



Source: Personal Documentation (January, 2022)

Based on the results of the documentation in January 2022, the residents' garbage was transported using a Tossa motorbike. This transportation was carried out three times a week if the residents' garbage had piled up.

# 3. Activities of Making WC as a Substitute for Latrine

Toilets, latrines, closets, latrines, or WCs that have a function refer to household equipment used as a place to store or dispose of human waste. Based on this, the people of Banua Anyar village who live on the riverbanks mostly still use latrines in their homes.

Based on an interview with KS (55) on January 26, 2022. This toilet facility program is used to reduce river pollution. Based on the expression of SR (57) states that river water can no longer be used for drinking because it is highly polluted by family waste which is often dumped into the river. This is in line with the statement from LR (34 years old) that they rarely use river water because the river is polluted. River water is only used for washing clothes, and he only uses it sometimes when PDAM water is not operating. So, the program of making toilets a substitute for latrines is beneficial in reducing river pollution if it is realized as a whole.

Based on the narrative of S (52) as the head of RT.01, he stated that there are still 40 latrines in the area of RT.01. Meanwhile, S (63), as the head of RT.02, said that there were still 50 latrines that were still used by the people who were on the banks of the Martapura river. Therefore, based on the narratives of the 3 RT heads, they have proposed to Banua Anyar village to build latrines for all residents living on the riverbanks. However, due to limited funds and the location of the houses on the banks, it is challenging to make toilets in their respective homes. So that the District is still trying to find a suitable place to make several public toilets in each RT. The funds used to construct this toilet are from the KOTAKU program from the Banjarmasin city government. The funds realized for the manufacture of this WC are Rp. 35,000,000, but this fund is undoubtedly still lacking, and the construction of toilets is only given in a few places.

Based on the narrative of S (52) as the head of RT. 01, In RT.01, toilets have not been made for the residents, but the names of the people who deserve free toilet assistance have been recorded and submitted to the District. In RT.02, there are still no toilets for the Community. Based on the narrative of S (63), as the head of RT.02, he said that the construction of the toilet in RT.02 was hampered because one of the residents of his land did not want to be used as a septic tank storage area for residents living on the riverbanks. Because according to S (63), the land for the construction of a septic tank shelter must be large so that the construction of toilets cannot be carried out and he has proposed data on the names of residents who are entitled to free toilets and submitted to the urban village.

KS (55) as the head of RT. 03 said that in RT.03, 10 toilets had been built, which were built in people's homes that were not on the banks of the river. Only one public toilet has been made for residents on the banks of the river, but this WC is also rarely used because it is far from residents' houses on the river banks. Due to limited funds and difficulty finding a suitable location, this public toilet was only built once and far from the residents' houses. This happened because there was no vacant land around the residents' houses on the river banks.

Figure 5. Public WC from the KOTAKU Program Government Fund



Source: Personal Documentation (March 2022)

Figure 6. WC in one of the houses of residents who receive assistance



Source: Personal Documentation (March 2022)

Based on the results of the documentation in March 2022, there were public and private toilets in one of the residents' houses who received assistance from the Banjarmasin City government through the KOTAKU program. The residents who received the free WC assistance were those who did not live in the area along the river because there was a place used to construct a septic tank on the ground.

### **CONCLUSION**

Rivers have an essential role in human life, especially for people who live on riverbanks. They are directly related to the river, and even the activities people do are related to the river. The activities of the Banua Anyar village community in maintaining sustainability are by holding community service activities to clean up trash and the environment where they live. Distribute trash bins to the Community so that they get used to throwing garbage in its place. Moreover, the last activity is making toilets as a substitute for latrines. Of course, this is also supported by the local government so that river pollution is immediately resolved so that it can maintain the sustainability of the Martapura river in Banua Anyar village.

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