

Empowerment and Conservation Action through the Planting of Million Tree Onthe Banks of Limboto Lake in Buhu Village, Telaga Biru Sub-District, Gorontalo Regency

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Abstract. *The aim of this program is the action of Community Development through planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake in Buhu village, Telaga Biru sub-district, Gorontalo Regency. This program is carried out as an effort to conserve the damage of the Limboto lake ecosystem, collaboration with the Universitas Muhammadiyah Gorontalo, the government of Buhu village and the community of Buhu village. The method used in this activity is the method of socialization and the implementation of planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake. The flow of this activity includes the preparation of field observations and implementation of planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake. The results and discussion show that the empowerment action and the planting of a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake going well. It was concluded that the community empowerment action and conservation efforts through the program of planting a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake have not been able to attract sympathy from the coastal communities of Limboto Lake. It is suggested to the government of village that empowerment actions and conservation efforts for Limboto lake like this need to be cultivated to a broader level of community understanding, about the need for action and actions to preserve Limboto lake through community empowerment programs.*

Keywords: Conservation, Empowerment, Action, Planting

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INTRODUCTION

The empowerment action through planting a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake is a form of community service activity by students of the University of Muhammadiyah Gorontalo Da'wah Work Lecture from various study programs. The implementation of this community service activity is carried out on the banks of the Limboto lake which is located in Buhu Village, Telaga Biru Subdistrict, Gorontalo Regency, one of the villages that has a fairly wide lake bank, but the conditions on the banks of the lake are quite shallow and are not planted with protective plants. This program is an intracurricular activity that combines the implementation of the Tri Dharma of higher education (education, research, and community service) as carried out in community empowerment programs in general (Suryani, 2018); in the context of community empowerment in the industrial era 4.0, by providing knowledge to the

public and students about the importance of protecting and preserving nature (Salimi et al., n.d.)

Based on the results of the initial survey / observation of the Limboto bank in Buhu Village, the Limboto lake bank which is quite wide and shallow is increasingly concerning due to changes in lake land use (Umar et al., 2018). Identification of the problems that exist in Buhu village, namely the absence of directions from the local government to the community to plant shade trees, not knowing how and where to obtain shade tree seedlings.

The tendency of the community to use the silting on the banks of the Limboto lake, requires empowerment action and conservation efforts through planting a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake (Nusantari, 2010); experience learning and collaborating in development activities with the community, higher education is a vehicle for the application and development of science and technology that continues both on and off campus.

It is increasingly being realized that the success of the community empowerment action through planting a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake is very dependent on community participation. The community as the beneficiary of the Limboto lake needs to be invited to recognize the problems, limitations and benefits of managing Lake Limboto completely and correctly so that awareness can grow to participate in the management of the Limboto lake, in order to minimize threats to the existence of the ecosystem and the sustainability of the lake in the future (Yuningsih & Ngabito, 2018)



Figure 1. Preparation for Implementation of Community Service Programs

Through the program "Empowerment Action and Conservation Efforts by planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake to support the rescue of Lake Limboto as a public asset through public education in Buhu, it is hoped that this movement can carry out a movement to preserve the Limboto lake. The purpose of this empowerment action and conservation efforts is for environmental preservation (Hasim, 2018); increasing the socio-cultural quality of the community (Wolok et al., 2019); and improving the economic welfare of the Limboto lake coastal community (Salimi et al., n.d.); through improving the quality of education, knowledge, understanding and public awareness of the lake and its environment. Communities get quality basic education (guided by universities) regarding community empowerment. This Limboto lake conservation effort is carried out with a community

empowerment method carried out by involving the participation of various parties. With the existence of community empowerment, it is hoped that it can grow and create public awareness to protect and preserve the nature of Limboto Lake. To arouse the enthusiasm of the community to take an active role in protecting and preserving the lake, changing the people's mindset so that they are no longer interested in silting Lake Limboto (Alborn, 2010)

METHODS

Community service was carried out on the banks of the Limboto lake in June 2020 by involving the lake shore community and village government officials. Buhu Village was chosen as the location for community service on the banks of the lake in Telaga Biru District by conducting socialization and planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto Lake.

In order to achieve the goal of community service, steps are taken which include choosing a place to serve as a place of community service as well as holding discussions with the village head in the context of selecting potential topics for implementing community service programs. Conducting outreach on the importance of carrying out empowerment actions and planting a million trees on the banks of Limboto lake, which are adjusted to the potential of the surrounding environment, especially the coast and the banks of the Limboto lake.

To achieve success in this community service activity, 15 participants were invited to attend this socialization, in collaboration with students of the KKD program batch XV of Muhammadiyah University of Gorontalo.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Community service activities carried out in Buhu village, Telaga Biru sub-district, Gorontalo district. This activity involving the village government and the community of Buhu village and students of the Muhammadiyah University of Gorontalo was mainly driven by housewives who also work as fishermen on the shore of the lake every day (Sayuti & Hasanuddin, 2017) where the role of the mother in the development and conservation activities as well as the utilization of Limboto lake is very large, as well as an illustration of the application of management science and technology to the community (Wolok et al., 2019); and is also one of the strategies to improve the quality of higher education to strengthen competitiveness in facing the Southeast Asian economic community (Panday, 2014).

The handover of 5000 shade tree seedlings from students to the Buhu village government, prioritizing activities on empowerment through planting a million trees along the limboto lake in Buhu village, Telaga Biru sub-district, was held a day before planting in the field.



Figure 3. Submission of Seeds by Students

Participants who attended this activity consisted of elements from the Buhu village government, namely: Village Head, Village Secretary, Village Officials, Village Communities, housewives and students from various study programs within UM Gorontalo as this empowerment action program was implemented through several stages namely field observation, socialization and program of core activities, and program evaluation.



Figure 4. Student and Village Government Planting Actions

The action of planting a million trees by students and the Buhu Village Government was carried out symbolically by field assistant lecturers witnessed by the village government, village communities and students of Muhammadiyah Gorontalo University. The next planting action was carried out by the village government, village communities and students on the banks of the Limboto lake.

The socialization of the service program and the planting of a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake is designed as an urgent and very important program (Junius & Bakung, 2012). The program implemented is in order to provide education and implementation of the community and village government in Buhu especially in addressing various problems in the management of Limboto Lake (Air & Danau, 2009), at once based on research findings (Lamangida et al., 2017); (1392, ١٥); (Lamangida et al., 2018).

An illustration of the community's reaction to program implementation is the response of the community and the Buhu village government and the socialization participants and tree planting actions that are quite good, this can be seen from the implementation of activities during the socialization that lasts to completion. The enthusiasm of the participants was seen from the participation of the community and village government in these activities.

Increase the understanding of the community and village government and students about the importance of empowerment actions and lake conservation efforts through planting trees on the banks of Limboto lake. In the implementation of the planting which was running smoothly and well, the village government together with the officials, the village community were directly involved in the planting action, mingling with students in the field.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

It was concluded that the community empowerment action and conservation efforts through the program of planting a million trees on the banks of the Limboto lake were able to attract sympathy from the coastal communities of Limboto Lake. Village government so that empowerment actions and conservation efforts of Limboto lake like this need to be cultivated among the wider community.

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