

Urgency of Women Friendly City Development Challenges in the Concept of Sustainable Development

Timorora Sandha Perdhana, Widi Winarso

¹Bhayangkara Jakarta Raya University, Jakarta – Indonesia

Received: 20- June -2023

Revised: 12- July -2023

Accepted: 10- August -2023

ABSTRACT

The basic principle of this Women-Friendly City is how a city is built to be inclusive for all its citizens, women and men, rich and poor, civil society, the private sector and of course safe, so that all citizens can work, socialize and actualize themselves. This study aims to map the urgency of developing women-friendly cities. The research was conducted in Colomadu, Solo City - Central Java Province. Involved 100 respondents consisting of; 20 early adolescents (12-16 years old); 20 late teens (17-25 years old); 20 early adults (age 26-35 years); 20 late adults (age 36-45 years); and 20 early elderly people (age 46-55 years). Aspects of research seen from things namely; Rules, Commitments, Document methods and Availability of facilities. Processing data using descriptive statistical methods.

Keywords: Women friendly city, Sustainable development; Gender; Solo

INTRODUCTION

Cities are multicultural settlements that cannot be designed or designed through one type of neutral subject that can represent all residents. Urban planning must pay attention to the needs of each individual and different groups. This is intended so that the objectives of urban planning are carried out right on target according to the needs of every community, both women, men, the elderly to children. Inappropriate planning processes can lead to social disparities between genders in cities. The issue of gender in urban space is one of the important things to discuss in building a friendly city for various groups.

In fact, the process of creating a public space that is suitable for women's activities has become a concern in various international studies. The role of women and their presence in creating urban space is an issue that often arises. This issue has encouraged the formation of the "Women Friendly Cities" theory. This theory shapes the efforts made to create urban spaces that are inclusive, accessible and safe for women. A city that is friendly to women is a city that can provide services according to the needs of women.

Cases of sexual harassment experienced by Indonesian women in their respective public spaces are rife. There are still many views that assume that women have a lower rank than men, so they deserve bad treatment. In 2019, KOMNAS PEREMPUAN Indonesia noted that 24% or around 3,602 cases of harassment of women occurred in public spaces. These incidents are recorded reports only, there are still many incidents in the field that have not been recorded. In creating a city that is friendly to women, it is necessary to pay attention to various aspects that must be met, starting from public facilities, infrastructure, binding regulations, as well as community awareness and involvement.

It is hoped that women can take a role in designing cities, to choose and plan which places suit their needs. Because of course women themselves understand better what needs to be planned to meet their needs. Cities are designed and planned by architects, urban planners and stakeholders. Therefore women can also take an important role in designing cities as people who make decisions, so that the decisions made are more directed and on target. In addition, the role that can be taken can be in the form of voicing aspirations for needs through social media and media provided by the government. Through urban planning, it is hoped that it can pay attention to the needs of women so that it can reduce the gaps that occur in the social environment. This study aims to map the urgency of developing women-friendly cities.

METHOD

The research was conducted in Colomadu, Solo City - Central Java Province. Involved 100 respondents consisting of;

1. 20 early adolescents (EA) (12-16 years old);
2. 20 teenagers (T) (17-25 years old);
3. 20 early adults (EAdt) (age 26-35 years);
4. 20 adults (A) (age 36-45 years);
5. 20 early elderly people (EEP) (age 46-55 years);

Aspects of research seen from things namely; Rules, Commitments, Document methods and Availability of facilities. Processing data using descriptive statistical methods.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The basic principle of this Women-Friendly City is how a city is built to be inclusive for all its citizens, women and men, rich and poor, civil society, the private sector and of course safe, so that all citizens can work, socialize and actualize themselves. In other words, urban development should be directed towards development that can anticipate population growth, poverty, security issues, especially for women and children, as well as people with disabilities and various other social problems, especially ending cases of sexual violence against women in public spaces.

In the context of sustainable development, although there is no explicit policy related to this Women-Friendly City, there are several initiatives that have been made and deserve appreciation. For example, the procurement of special carriages for women on Commuterline, the separation of female and male passengers on Busway, the provision of special rooms for breastfeeding mothers and so on. However, of course these initiatives are not enough, given the complexity of the issue of "urban space" that must be considered so that cities are truly comfortable for women to carry out activities in public spaces and then contribute to them. Therefore, an important point in creating a Women-Friendly Cities is how since in drafting the concept of Women-Friendly Cities, the government has involved survivors of cases of violence against women, families of victims, people from all walks of life.

This is so that the programs created to create a Women-Friendly City are truly implementable because they are made based on the knowledge and experience of women themselves so far doing activities in urban spaces. Another important note is that the issue of conditioning the development of a city to be women-friendly does not mean that it wants to make women special. This should be seen as a way to accelerate gender equality between women and men. As stated above, violence against women is a form of gender inequality. And gender inequality is created because of the stigma, labeling and subordination that women have experienced so far in the public and private spheres.

Based on the research results, looking at the urgency of developing a child-friendly city in Colomadu, Solo City from a women's perspective can be seen from the following table 1;

Table 1. Datas recapitulation

	Urgency Level				Existing Level			
	Rules	Commitments	Document methods	Availability of facilities	Rules	Commitments	Document methods	Availability of facilities
EA	3.8	2.1	1.9	4	3.8	2.1	2	2
T	4.1	2.9	3.1	5	4.1	3	3	3
Eadt	5	5	5	5	4.5	4.5	5	5
A	5	4.7	5	5	4.3	4.4	4.8	5

EEP	5	5	5	5	4	4.8	5	5
Total	22.9	19.7	20.0	24.0	20.7	18.8	19.8	20.0

Source; Processed data, 2023

Based on the results of data recapitulation, there is still a GAP between the urgency level and the existing level. The GAP between the two can be seen in table 2 below;

Table 2. GAP between urgency level and existing level

	Urgency Level	Existing Level	GAP
Rules	22.9	20.7	2.2
Commitments	19.7	18.8	0.9
Document methods	20	19.8	0.2
Availability of facilities	24	20	4

Source; Processed data, 2023

Thus it can be seen that the community, especially women, considers the development of women-friendly cities very important, but currently the implementation is not optimal. This is because the Women-Friendly Cities concentration in Colomadu has not been legally established. So that the implementation is still not structured and sustainable.

CONCLUSION

Indonesia legally has internalized and supported efforts to promote gender justice. This is evidenced by the existence of various regulations that contain efforts to protect and seek to create gender justice in Indonesia. However, in several indicators of gender equity, there are still gaps and discrepancies in the gender perspective. Developing Women Friendly Cities requires collaboration and political will from all stakeholders and requires sustainable policies. Apart from that, the support of the residents, especially men, is important, not only the issue of alignment with the female gender. But the development of Women Friendly Cities is one of the implementations of sustainable development.

REFERENCES

1. Abou-Shouk, M. A., Mannaa, M. T., & Elbaz, A. M. (2021). Women's empowerment and tourism development: A cross-country study. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 37, 100782. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2020.100782>
2. Azmi, Z. (2020). Discoursing women's political participation towards achieving sustainable development: The case of women in Parti Islam Se-Malaysia (PAS). *Kajian Malaysia*, 38, 67–88. <https://doi.org/10.21315/KM2020.38.S1.5>
3. Bayeh, E. (2016). The role of empowering women and achieving gender equality to the sustainable development of Ethiopia. *Pacific Science Review B: Humanities and Social Sciences*, 2(1), 37–42. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psr.b.2016.09.013>
4. Benson, D., Gain, A. K., & Giupponi, C. (2020). Moving beyond water centrality?
5. Conceptualizing integrated water resources management for implementing sustainable development goals. *Sustainability Science*, 15(2), 671–681. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-019-00733-5>
6. Dery, F., Bisung, E., Dickin, S., & Dyer, M. (2020). Understanding empowerment in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH): A scoping review. *Journal of Water Sanitation and Hygiene for Development*, 10(1), 5–15. <https://doi.org/10.2166/washdev.2019.077>
7. Downs, J. A., Reif, L. K., Hokororo, A., & Fitzgerald, D. W. (2014). Increasing Women in Leadership in Global Health. *Academic Medicine*, 89(8), 1103–1107. <https://doi.org/10.1097/ACM.0000000000000369>
8. Freund, D., & Hernandez-Maskivker, G. (2021). Women managers in tourism: Associations for building a sustainable world. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 38. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2021.100820>
9. Glazebrook, T., & Opoku, E. (2020). Gender and sustainability: Learning from women's farming in Africa. *Sustainability (Switzerland)*, 12(24), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su122410483>

- Bagus, T. (2021). Sustainable development goals and higher education: leaving many behind. *Higher Education*, 81(1), 163–177. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-020-00573-8>
10. Verba, S., Schlozman, K. L., & Brady, H. E. (1995). *Voice and equality: Civic voluntarism in American politics*. Harvard University Press.
- Vizheh, M., Muhidin, S., Behboodi Moghadam, Z., & Zareiyan, A. (2021). Women empowerment in reproductive health: a systematic review of measurement properties. *BMC Women's Health*, 21(1), 424. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12905-021-01566-0>