

## **Sustainability Analysis of Beneficiaries of the Latrine Program Assistance in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngabur**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngabur is one of the villages in Pesisir Barat Regency that faces significant sanitation issues, where open defecation (OD) is still practiced by some residents. This behavior contradicts the sixth goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This study aims to analyze the achievement of the latrine program indicators in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngabur and understand the changes in healthy living behavior among the community following the implementation of the program. The program's success is identified through the fulfillment of latrine procurement regulations in accordance with the applicable government standards. This research uses a qualitative approach. Sampling was conducted using purposive sampling, involving 7 supporting samples and 10 core samples. Data collection was carried out through interviews, observations, documentation, and conclusion drawing. The results show that 12 indicators of the healthy latrine program were achieved by 70% overall, while 30% remained unachieved. The latrine program in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngabur successfully improved access to proper sanitation, particularly for underprivileged communities, and encouraged behavioral changes from open defecation to the use of healthy latrines. The positive impacts of the program include improved cleanliness, disease prevention such as diarrhea, and increased public awareness of the importance of sanitation. The program's

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sustainability is also supported by community initiatives to improve and expand sanitation facilities, contributing significantly to better public health and environmental quality overall.

**Keyword:** *Healthy Living Behavior, Latrine Program, Sanitation,*

**ABSTRAK**

Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur merupakan salah satu desa di Kabupaten Pesisir Barat yang memiliki permasalahan sanitasi yang cukup signifikan, dimana masih ditemukan perilaku masyarakat desa yang melakukan Buang Air Besar (BABS) secara sembarangan. Hal tersebut tidak sejalan dengan tujuan SDGs pada tujuan Ke-6. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pencapaian indikator program jambanisasi di Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur serta memahami perubahan perilaku hidup sehat di kalangan masyarakat setelah adanya program jambanisasi. Ketercapaian program dapat teridentifikasi dengan pemenuhan peraturan pengadaan jamban sesuai dengan peraturan pemerintah yang berlaku. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif. Teknik pengambilan sampel menggunakan purposive sampling, sebanyak 7 sampel, terdiri 7 sampel pendukung dan 10 sampel inti. Proses pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui wawancara, observasi, dokumentasi dan penarikan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa 12 indikator program jamban sehat tercapai sebesar 70% secara keseluruhan, sementara 30% belum tercapai. Program jambanisasi di Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur berhasil meningkatkan akses sanitasi layak, khususnya bagi masyarakat kurang mampu, serta mendorong perubahan perilaku dari buang air besar sembarangan ke penggunaan jamban sehat. Dampak positif program ini terlihat pada peningkatan kebersihan, pencegahan penyakit seperti diare, dan kesadaran masyarakat akan pentingnya sanitasi. Keberlanjutan program juga didukung oleh inisiatif masyarakat dalam memperbaiki dan menambah fasilitas sanitasi, sehingga secara keseluruhan program ini berkontribusi signifikan terhadap kualitas kesehatan dan lingkungan yang lebih baik.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The behavior of people who do not maintain health and cleanliness and are accustomed to open defecation (OD) remains a sanitation challenge in various regions of Indonesia, including Lampung Province. This behavior occurs due to several influencing factors. The first factor is the lack of public knowledge about sanitation. The second factor is the environment that supports OD. The third factor is low economic status. The low economic status of the community causes them not to build latrines in their homes, which leads to the practice of open defecation. This low economic status is the most influential factor preventing people from building latrines in their homes (Hayana et al., 2020; Nidyawati et al., 2013; Setiasih et al., 2020; Triyono, 2014).

The latrine program is a derivative of the 6th SDG goal, which focuses on sanitation. Disinfection is a public issue and, surprisingly, a global one that requires government consideration. As previously explained, it is estimated that 2.5 billion people on this planet do not have access to toilets or adequate facilities for disposing of human waste. This includes 1 billion people who practice open defecation in rivers and fields, spreading infections and microbes through water and food. Only about 64% of the total population has access to proper sanitation. In the government sector, to realize the 6th SDG goal of sustainable development, the village government must cooperate with the community (Andriani & Susilawati, 2022).

Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur is divided into 6 areas: Negeri Ratu Induk, Way Batang, Cahya Negeri, Banjar

Cahaya Negeri, Suka Negeri, and Banjar Negeri, with a total land area of 3,800 km<sup>2</sup>. The population consists of 662 households with a total of 2,860 people, covering an area of 809 hectares. However, some of the village's residents experience social inequality in accessing proper sanitation. This inequality is not only social but also environmental, as the conditions in the community support open defecation. This includes residential areas that are still within water areas such as the sea, rivers, or streams, as well as land areas like forests, fields, and bushes.

Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur faces significant sanitation challenges, with the persistence of open defecation (OD) practices among some residents. This issue is influenced by several factors, including a lack of public awareness about the importance of sanitation, environmental conditions that support OD, and economic constraints that hinder the construction of adequate latrines in households. Inequitable access to sanitation facilities also remains a major issue, particularly among residents living in water areas such as rivers, streams, or open land like forests and fields. This condition not only negatively impacts public health but also contradicts the government's efforts to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages, as outlined in the 6th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) related to access to clean water and proper sanitation. This study aims to analyze the achievement of the latrine program indicators in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur, specifically in addressing OD practices and improving access to proper sanitation facilities for the community. Additionally, the research

seeks to understand changes in healthy living behavior among residents following the implementation of the latrine program and to evaluate the factors influencing the sustainability of latrine usage. The findings are expected to provide recommendations to the village government and relevant stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of sanitation programs and support the sustainable achievement of the 6th SDG.

In a community faced with various issues and problems, people dispose of their waste indiscriminately, reflecting inadequate sanitation levels and the lack of access to latrines in the residential area. The community's response to this issue should not be based solely on the assumption that they are apathetic or unconcerned about environmental health. The primary factor behind the inability to build proper sanitation facilities is economic; the average economic status is still low. This causes those without latrines to dispose of waste in inappropriate places such as bushes, forests, rivers, streams, and the sea. In this case, environmental factors also play a role in this problem.

The government must take a role in addressing the issues faced by the community, as they deserve access to proper sanitation like the general population. This aligns with the indicators of the 6th SDG goal, which states that ensuring continuous access to water and sanitation, and creating Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages, where every individual in the community does not defecate openly, are essential. Therefore, the government should respond to its role by taking steps to create proper sanitation through the implementation of the latrine program. It is hoped that this program can address the sanitation disparities in the community

and neutralize behaviors that are detrimental to environmental and family health. The beneficiaries of the government's latrine program still consider the condition of the latrines to be adequate, as they are still being used in their daily lives.

## **METODES**

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach with a case study method in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur to analyze the effectiveness of the latrine program in addressing sanitation issues in the area. The sampling technique used is purposive sampling, involving 17 samples consisting of 10 recipients of the latrine program assistance and 7 village government officials. The selection of samples is based on an analysis of residents identified as lacking adequate sanitation access. The study aims to evaluate the program's impact on changes in healthy living behavior and sanitation access while also gaining insights from local government officials regarding program implementation, supporting policies, and challenges encountered during execution. Data were collected through document studies, interviews, observations, and documentation, then analyzed using data management steps, including data collection, data reduction, data presentation, data verification, and conclusion drawing. The triangulation method is applied to ensure the validity and credibility of the data obtained, particularly in evaluating sanitation access, sanitation quality, and the implementation of the latrine program in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur.

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, a healthy latrine must meet 12 indicators, including not contaminating drinking water sources, maintaining a distance of 10-15 meters



between the septic tank and water sources, being odor-free, ensuring waste is inaccessible to vectors, having a spacious and sloped design to prevent soil contamination, being easy to clean, and safe to use. Additionally, latrines should have waterproof walls and roofs, adequate lighting, non-slip floors, and proper ventilation. This study not only evaluates the level of compliance with these indicators in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur but also explores the factors supporting and hindering the sustainability of the latrine program.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Whether an indicator of a healthy toilet is achieved well or not in a community environment depends on how well the community understands healthy toilet construction. In research observations, this becomes one of the benchmarks for assessing community knowledge about healthy toilet development. From the observations conducted, the following data were obtained:

**Table 1.** The healthy toilet indicators

No	Indicators	The Program Achievement	
		Fulfilled	Not fulfilled
1	Not polluting water sources with a minimum distance of 10 meters	70%	30%
2	Not polluting the surrounding soil (septic tank enclosed by cement walls)	100%	-
3	Waste cannot be accessed by insects and rodents (enclosed)	100%	-
4	Does not produce odor	100%	-
5	Safe to use for its users	100%	-

6	Easy to clean and does not cause problems for its users	100%	-
7	Equipped with protective walls and roof	90%	10%
8	Adequate lighting and ventilation	90%	10%
9	Waterproof floor and adequate room size	100%	-
10	Available water, soap and cleaning tools	100%	-
11	Does not create an unsightly view	70%	30%
12	Type of toilet usage (goose-neck toilet)	100%	-

Source: analysis data



(a)



(b)

**Figure 1.** (a) toilet without a protective roof (b) unsafe toilet access without a door

One of the requirements for a latrine to meet health standards is that it must be equipped with a latrine house. The latrine house must also be equipped with walls and a closed roof. This relates to the privacy of its users. The latrine must be a closed structure to protect users from the view of others and from heat and/or rain. Besides privacy concerns, a closed toilet house also relates to ethical and aesthetic values. This can impact the discomfort of its users regarding privacy and also the lack of protection from hot weather and/or rain for the toilet users. Toilets not only need to be comfortable for users but also should be able to protect users from disease interference, thus improving the family's health status (Setia & A, 2021).

Category of Healthy Latrine Indicators from Observation Results of Research Conducted by the Researcher with 10 Respondents Receiving Healthy Latrine Assistance. The optimization of healthy latrines is carried out with a construction scheme conducted independently, thus becoming a benchmark for the community on how to build latrines in accordance with the regulations from the Minister of Health Regulation No. 3 of 2014. A sanitary latrine is a state of disinfection (sanitation) facility that meets health guidelines and requirements, namely:

1. Does not create conditions that are directly spread by materials harmful to humans caused by the disposal of human waste.
2. Can prevent infections that transmit diseases and can eliminate the spread of diseases to clients and the general condition.
3. A healthy WC that must be built, claimed, and utilized by the family and placed (inside or outside the house) that is effectively open to the house occupants (Tanjung & Kusuma, n.d.)

This latrine program has become a bridge for the community to take a step forward in improving family and personal health. Out of the 12 indicators provided, 3 out of 10 respondents did not fully meet all 12 healthy latrine indicators, which means 30% did not meet the healthy latrine criteria and 70% met the healthy latrine criteria. The condition of the latrines experienced damage, especially in the door sector which came off, and there were several instances where materials were not used in their proper places, such as protective roofs and doors for latrine construction being used for additional house construction. Additionally, the distance of the septic tank was less than 10 meters from the source (Sari, 2021; Wijayanti et al., 2020).

The most dominant environmental factor in the spread of diarrhea is the disposal of feces. The presence of unused and poorly managed toilets in households can be one of the causes of diarrhea. The utilization of these family toilets can be influenced by attitudes, toilet ownership, the role of healthcare workers, and community leaders. In relation to this, it is necessary to conduct community awareness campaigns to encourage people to use toilets properly (Amirinnisa et al., 2023; Sodikin, 2023). When toilets are used properly, it can reduce the incidence of diarrhea in the community (Mathofani et al., 2020) Behavior in utilizing toilets can be realized when there is a conviction within an individual driven by knowledge and a positive attitude towards it. This can lead to efforts to use toilets properly, thus preventing diarrhea (Apriyanti et al., 2018).

The program carried out independently by the community is a form of community empowerment as a

process to provide abilities to weak or powerless communities, aimed at enabling them to solve the problems they are facing. Empowerment is said to be successful if it can create independence or solve community problems as initially planned. In this case, empowerment is deemed successful because the community was able to build their own latrines (Aidha & Harahap, 2021; Herawati et al., 2011; Pratama et al., 2023).

Economic factors are a direct driver for the sustainability of latrine construction, as facilities previously provided by the government will inevitably suffer damage from continuous daily use, impacting the achievement of several categories of the 12 healthy latrine indicators. Not only economic factors, but environmental and social factors also play a role in meeting the healthy latrine indicators. Therefore, it can be concluded that the continued use of latrines from this latrine program assistance is still in use and is categorized as suitable for use because it is still utilized by the community in their daily lives.

The impact of the latrine program has led to an increase in latrine ownership in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur, although some still lack access to latrines. Directly, the latrine program has triggered a mindset shift in the community towards creating a healthy lifestyle regarding proper feces disposal. This program aims to encourage the community to be more concerned with health and environmental cleanliness to prevent the spread of diseases (preventive), such as diarrhea. Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that latrine ownership has successfully changed the behavior of the community from open defecation to using healthy latrines, thereby improving the overall health level of the community.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The sustainability of the latrines provided by the village government to the less fortunate residents is still being utilized in their daily lives. The achievement of healthy latrine criteria indicators in Pekon Negeri Ratu Ngambur shows that 30% are not met and 70% are met. The unmet indicators include the septic tank distance being less than 10 meters, the absence of a roof, and an unsightly appearance. Economic factors are a direct driver for the sustainability of latrine construction, especially in terms of adding and repairing facilities. The program has led to a change in healthy living behavior among the community post-latrine program. This program aims to encourage the community to be more concerned about health and environmental cleanliness to prevent the spread of diseases (preventive), such as diarrhea. Based on the above explanation, it can be concluded that the ownership of latrines has successfully changed the behavior of the community from open defecation to using healthy latrines, thereby improving the overall health level of the community.

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