

Exemplary Method of Environmental Cadres: Strategy for Creating Civic Responsibility in Handling Climate Change through the Climate Village Program



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ABSTRACT: Climate change mitigation is the civic responsibility towards the environment. Climate change causes various adverse impacts on human health and survival. Reducing these negative impacts as a responsible citizen must create a sustainable environment, but not all citizens have the character of responsibility. This study aims to describe the exemplary method of environmental cadres as a strategy to create the character of civic responsibility in handling climate change through the Climate Village Program. This study uses a qualitative descriptive research type. Data collection techniques using observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis in this study uses data reduction, data presentation, conclusions, and verification. The results of this study indicate that exemplary methods by environmental cadres can create the character of civic responsibility in handling climate change through the Climate Village Program which is demonstrated by the ability of residents to carry out climate change mitigation actions, awareness of citizens in maintaining cleanliness, ability to manage and preserve the environment. Environmental cadres are residents who have knowledge, skills, and a more competent attitude towards environmental responsibility than other residents so every action of environmental cadres becomes an example for other residents to emulate.

KEYWORDS: Exemplary method, Environmental cadres, Civic responsibility, Climate change, Climate Village Program

I. INTRODUCTION

The environment is defined as an area or area for living belonging to all living things or inanimate objects (Sadiku, Ashaolu, Majebi & Musa, 2020). Sir EJ Ross, defines the environment as the collection of all external conditions and effects that govern the life and development of organisms (Kumar, 2018). Environmental degradation is a significant concern in today's modern period because it endangers the survival of living things in various countries. Environmental Issues have been discussed since the 1990s. Data from the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in 1991, more than 6.1 billion hectares of dry land, of which 70% had become desert due to drought. The data report shows the importance of development goals in balance with environmental preservation (Christmas and Aminah, 2019). The problem of environmental damage affects human life such as climate change, resource depletion, water and air pollution, and decreased biodiversity (Gkargkavouzia, Halkosb & Matsiori, 2019). A changing climate is characterized by widespread and continuous increases in temperature and rainfall as well as other elements such as ambient pressure and humidity (Abbas, et al, 2021). According to the Meteorology, Climatology & Geophysics Agency's (BMKG) statistical report on warming or temperature rise, 2020 is classified as the second warmest year, with an anomaly value of 0.7°C, while 2019 is in third place with an anomaly value of 0.6 °C.

The government makes policies related to environmental management as a way to overcome various environmental problems. Through this policy, it is hoped that procedures for managing or extracting natural resources will become wiser. Indonesian government regulations or policies as a step to overcome environmental problems, especially climate change, is to initiate the Climate Village Program. Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia Number P.84/Menlhk-Setjen/Kum.1/11/2016 concerning the Climate Village Program states that this program is national in scope and managed by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to increase community and stakeholder involvement others to strengthen adaptive capacity to the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as provide recognition for climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts that have been made which can improve welfare at the local level by regional conditions. The Climate Village Program (ProKlim) is a climate change adaptation and mitigation program intended to be implemented by the government and related parties in the context of combating and managing climate change (Wangi and Muljono, 2020). The

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Climate Village Program is also a form of handling climate change and greenhouse gas emissions from the sustainable development goal of point number thirteen. Sustainable development in the Brundtland report is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations (Tiwari and Thakur, 2020).

The implementation of the Climate Village Program requires the cooperation and responsibility of various parties, such as the Environmental Service, environmental cadres, residents, and other parties. Responsibility is a person's ability to react or respond to things done (Lickona, 2015). Maintaining a healthy and good environment is the responsibility of every citizen of existing environmental problems (Asshiddiqie, 2009). The responsibility of this citizen is one of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that must be owned by a good citizen or a competent citizen. Citizens are very important people in mitigation and adaptation activities in dealing with climate change. Citizens must be required to have a sense of awareness of protecting the environment and responsibility for environmental problems that exist in their area. If residents have the character of responsibility for the environment, then residents will be able to deal with climate change appropriately. But not all citizens who have implemented the Climate Village Program or residents whose areas where they live are appointed to implement the Climate Village Program have good environmental responsibility characteristics.

One of the regions in Indonesia that have implemented the Climate Village Program is the Selosari Village, Magetan Regency. This area has been prepared since 2019 by the Magetan Regency Environmental Service to carry out the Climate Village Program. The Climate Village Program implemented in the Selosari Village, Magetan Regency, is one of the programs to form environmental cadres to facilitate the process of outreach, training, mitigation actions, and evaluation related to activities dealing with climate change. Environmental cadres directly or indirectly provide examples of actions to deal with climate change to other residents to emulate this attitude. The example of these environmental cadres is very important to the environmental responsibility that citizens must have. Exemplary is imitating something so that the result is the same as what is imitated (Munawaroh, 2019). Determining what influences good or bad attitudes or character, exemplary can be used as a way of guiding character.

Every resident in the Selosari Village, Magetan Regency has a different background of knowledge and abilities related to awareness of protecting the environment so the attitude of responsibility for each individual is not the same in handling climate change. Responsible citizens will become aware of the dangers of climate change and aware of a sustainable environment that will make the environment comfortable to live in. A comfortable and clean environment is created from the responsibility of all citizens, not only the responsibility of the government (Basri, Mulyanti & Solihin, 2022). One of the factors causing various environmental problems in Indonesia is the uncertainty of the environmental care situation and the uncertainty of the attitude of responsibility towards the environment (Suryana, 2017). It is this problem of attitude of irresponsible citizens that makes environmental problems such as climate change difficult to deal with. It is very important and requires an activator or pioneer element to create civic responsibility in efforts to deal with climate change at the local level. Based on the description above, this study will discuss exemplary environmental cadres as one of the strategies to create the character of civic responsibility in handling climate change through the Climate Village Program.

II. METHOD

This study uses a qualitative descriptive research type, namely research that explains questions about why a phenomenon occurs (or does not) and assesses complex multi-component relationships (Busetto, Wick, and Gumbinger, 2020). The research in this study was carried out in RW 02 and RW 03, Selosari Village, Magetan Regency. The subjects of this study were the head of the Climate Village Program, environmental cadres, and residents. Data collection was carried out through observation techniques, interview techniques, and documentation techniques. The observation technique is carried out by passive participatory observation with direct observation of residents' activities to protect the environment and mitigation actions. The interview was carried out using a semi-structured interview technique. Documentation is carried out by collecting documents related to the implementation of mitigation actions in the Climate Village Program and the examples set by environmental cadres. Data were analyzed based on data analysis according to Miles and Huberman which consisted of data reduction, data presentation, conclusions, and verification (Lune and Berg, 2017).

III. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the methods described above, to achieve the research objectives which are discussed in the exemplary method of environmental cadres as a strategy to create the character of citizen responsibility in handling climate change implemented in RW 02 and RW 03 Selosari Village, Magetan Regency. This area has been implementing the Climate Village Program since 2019 appointed by the Magetan Regency Environmental Service because it has the potential to carry out climate change impact

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mitigation actions. The implementation of the Climate Village Program is carried out in various stages according to the rules in the Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia Number P.84/Menlhk-

Setjen/Kum.1/11/2016 namely, preparation, planning, implementation, and development of adaptation and mitigation actions climate change. Residents of RW 02 and RW 03 Selosari Sub-District, Magetan Regency in carrying out the Climate Village Program carry out more environmental activities or work programs in dealing with climate change or focus on mitigation activities for disaster risk awareness, mitigation, and reduction of the impacts of climate change. Mitigation activities that have been carried out such as maintaining cleanliness in the home environment by involving all family members, routine community service activities, cleaning streams, sorting and managing waste in waste banks, making compost from household food waste, cultivating maggot as a decomposer, switching to LED lighting and living energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, growing hydroponically and planting BUTORANTAS (fruit, toga, vegetables, and ornamental plants) in every house, making vertical gardens, making infiltration wells, reforestation, doing plant nurseries, utilizing land vacant to be used as a park or forest to prevent drought and other activities that reduce the greenhouse gas effect. The East Java Province Environmental Service, the Magetan Regency Environmental Service, environmental activists, and various other parties are parties that assist, guide and evaluate the implementation of the Climate Village Program.

The implementation of the Climate Village Program in the RW 02 and RW 03 Selosari Subdistrict, Magetan Regency went quite well even though several obstacles had to be faced, such as an attitude of environmental responsibility and lack of competence among residents. Citizens' attitude of responsibility towards the environment is an important behavior for the implementation of climate change management through the Climate Village Program. Responsibility is the ability to complete the assigned task, on time and dare to take the consequences of the chosen decision (Yusuf, 2018). Responsibility is the behavior of a person who shows the behavior of knowing and doing what is done as expected by others (Samani and Hariyanto, 2020). One of the basic human responsibilities is the obligation to save and enhance the country's natural resources, such as forests, lakes, rivers, animals, and other living things (Abdin, 2008). Law Number 32 of 2009 Article 67 related to Protection and Maintenance of the Environment, states that everyone is obliged to maintain the preservation of environmental functions and control environmental pollution and/or damage. Protecting the environment is everyone's obligation, regardless of membership in certain groups (Rahman, 2016). Everyone must be responsible for protecting the environment as much as possible (Gusmadi, 2018). On time, independence, attention, consistency, perseverance, cooperation, gratitude, and being able to assist people who are in trouble are signs that someone has an attitude of responsibility (Ardila, Nurhasanah, & Salimi, 2017). So that the attitude of responsibility of citizens towards the problem of climate change is that citizens can be independent, cooperative, attentive, and competent in knowledge, skills, and attitudes toward handling climate change.

Environmental responsibility related to handling climate change through the Climate Village Program can be created through a planned strategy. One strategy that can be applied is the swallowing method. The method is a series of actions that must be carried out and systematically arranged (Aditya, 2016). Exemplary is a powerful and effective technique for instilling moral, spiritual, and social aspects (Manan, 2017). Exemplary is imitating the behavior of students toward teachers, the behavior of children towards adults, the behavior of children towards their parents, the behavior of students towards teachers, and the behavior of community members toward community leaders. Imitation occurs in exemplary behavior (Suhono & Utama, 2017). Someone who has an example will have the attitude of being able to lead and be wise, not give up easily, think critically, and be responsible for the words and actions taken. Exemplary in this study is the attitude possessed by someone who can influence the creation of citizen responsibility in handling climate change through the Climate Village Program.

The results of observations, in-depth interviews, and documentation conducted by researchers indicate that one of the processes carried out by the RW 02 and RW 03 Selosari Subdistrict, Magetan Regency in implementing the Climate Village Program apart from compiling a management committee, work program plans, implementation of mitigation actions and related administrative matters is establishing environmental cadres. The formation of environmental cadres in RW 02 and RW 03 Selosari Subdistrict, Magetan Regency plays an important role in creating the character of community responsibility in implementing the Climate Village Program. Environmental cadres consist of residents who have been selected as representatives from each RT (Rukun Tetangga) in the Selosari Subdistrict, Magetan Regency because they have competence or abilities related to the environment. Residents who become environmental cadres are required to attend learning and training related to knowledge, skills, and attitudes in managing the environment and mitigating climate change. The East Java Provincial Environmental Service and various parties working in the environmental sector collaborated with the Selosari Village in implementing Action Learning to equip environmental cadres with materials related to waste segregation, waste management to be a blessing, compost making, hydroponic production, maggot cultivation, construction of infiltration wells, construction of nurseries, reforestation, and various other activities related to tackling climate change and reducing greenhouse gas effects. In addition, environmental cadres also

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carry out comparative studies or visits to areas that have previously implemented the Climate Village Program so that they can compare the advantages and disadvantages of the activity programs carried out between their areas and the areas where the comparative studies take place. These various activities will produce environmental cadres who have superior and competent responsibilities in dealing with climate change compared to other residents. An environmental cadre has a behavior that does not give up easily, has knowledge competence, skills, and attitudes related to environmental issues, can be responsible, has discipline, has a leadership attitude, and can be a role model for others. Environmental cadres as citizens who have superior competence in dealing with climate change have the task of being initiators, facilitators, motivators, and dynamists to spearhead citizen awareness and responsibility in preserving the environment and handling climate change through the Climate Village Program. Environmental cadres as initiators have the task of pioneering, initiating, and driving environmental awareness with the Climate Village Program by conveying knowledge, ideas, or thoughts related to environmental damage problems that occur in their region and globally to residents, such as the problem of climate change. Environmental cadres as facilitators have the task of assisting and training residents in various activities in implementing the Climate Village Program. The assistance and training provided by environmental cadres aim to empower and develop the ability of residents to preserve and manage the environment by holding various mitigation activities or training such as waste and waste management training activities carried out at waste banks, making plant seeds, training on making vertical gardens, etc. Environmental cadres as motivators have to stimulate and foster enthusiasm and enthusiasm for residents to know and have sensitivity to the importance of managing the environment and carrying out mitigation activities to prevent and reduce the impact of climate change through the Climate Village Program. Environmental cadres as dynamists must be active partners to communicate and understand the aspirations or needs of residents and to encourage residents to participate more actively to achieve the goals of the Climate Village Program. The behavior of environmental cadres in carrying out their duties as initiators, facilitators, motivators, and dynamists will show responsible behavior, independence, the ability to work together, be insightful, have the skills and attitudes to be aware of protecting and preserving the environment, and the importance of climate change mitigation efforts. These behaviors are referred to as role models that can be emulated by other citizens to foster a responsible attitude toward handling climate change.

Environmental cadres in carrying out their duties will actively communicate and monitor environmental conditions and the behavior of residents with the environment. Environmental cadres take a direct approach to residents individually or as a group through community meetings/gatherings, youth organizations, PKK activities, recitation activities, or RT/RW social gatherings and other activities. This approach and active communication are carried out to find out aspirations, complaints, or suggestions related to residents' problems with the environment so that environmental cadres can help, guide residents and set an example in handling climate change. The examples of environmental cadres that can be emulated by the residents are everything related to actions, invitations, encouragement, motivation, words, and behavior in responding to environmental problems. This example will be easily imitated and implemented by residents when environmental cadres carry out their duties as initiators, facilitators, motivators, and dynamists, this is due to direct and indirect interactions when empowering citizens in climate change mitigation actions in the implementation of the Climate Village Program. Environmental cadres must continue to be consistent and sustainable in providing role models for residents so that the sense of awareness that exists in residents to carry out their responsibilities in handling climate change can be carried out. Citizens who have carried out their responsibility for the environment and handling climate change will help achieve the goal of sustainable environmental development.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Creating civic responsibility in handling climate change through the Climate Village Program can be carried out by exemplary methods from environmental cadres. The example of environmental cadres that can be imitated or emulated by other residents is shown through direct or indirect behavior and actions when environmental cadres become initiators, facilitators, motivators, and dynamists in implementing the Climate Village Program. The behavior of these exemplary environmental cadres can be imitated by other residents so that residents have the ability and character to be responsible for managing the environment and carrying out climate change mitigation actions. The example of environmental cadres can be used as a method to create citizen responsibility in handling climate change in other regions. Not only for areas implementing the Climate Village Program but it can be replicated to be implemented in areas that have not yet implemented the Climate Village Program. The environmental cadres formed will initiate climate change mitigation activities and raise awareness of protecting the environment and managing the environment in areas that have not yet implemented the Climate Village Program.

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