




## Sporadic Land Registration Counseling and Socialization to Provide Legal Certainty in Sindang Jaya Subdistrict

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### ABSTRACT

*This community service program aims to enhance public understanding and awareness of the importance of sporadic land registration in order to provide legal certainty of land ownership in Sindang Jaya Village. The main problem faced by the community is the lack of knowledge regarding land registration procedures, administrative requirements, and legal benefits, which may lead to land disputes. The method used in this activity is a participatory approach through Participatory Action Research (PAR), including planning, implementation, observation, and reflection stages. The activities were conducted through counseling, socialization, and interactive discussions. The results show a significant improvement in community understanding regarding procedures, requirements, and legal benefits of land registration. Furthermore, the program increased public awareness and encouraged proactive participation in registering land. This activity is proven effective in improving legal awareness and can be used as a reference model for similar community service programs.*

*Pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan pemahaman dan kesadaran masyarakat mengenai pentingnya pendaftaran tanah secara sporadik dalam memberikan kepastian hukum kepemilikan tanah di Kelurahan Sindang Jaya. Permasalahan utama yang dihadapi masyarakat adalah rendahnya pengetahuan terkait prosedur, persyaratan administrasi, dan manfaat hukum dari pendaftaran tanah, yang berpotensi menimbulkan sengketa. Metode yang digunakan adalah pendekatan partisipatif melalui Participatory Action Research (PAR) dengan tahapan perencanaan, tindakan, observasi, dan refleksi. Kegiatan dilaksanakan melalui penyuluhan, sosialisasi, dan diskusi interaktif. Hasil kegiatan menunjukkan adanya peningkatan pemahaman masyarakat terkait prosedur dan manfaat pendaftaran tanah serta meningkatnya kesadaran hukum masyarakat. Kegiatan ini terbukti efektif dalam meningkatkan literasi hukum dan dapat menjadi model untuk kegiatan serupa di wilayah lain.*

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## **A. INTRODUCTION**

Land issues in Indonesia remain crucial, particularly concerning legal certainty of land ownership. Many people still do not possess land certificates due to their limited understanding of land registration procedures. This condition has the potential to cause disputes, overlapping ownership claims, and weak legal protection over land rights.

Land registration is a government effort to provide legal certainty through the recording of physical and juridical data related to land ownership. One form of land registration is sporadic land registration, which is carried out upon the request of individuals or groups for specific plots of land that have not yet been registered.

However, based on the conditions in Sindang Jaya Village, many community members still lack awareness of the importance of land registration. Several contributing factors include low legal awareness, the perception that land certification costs are expensive, limited access to information, and inadequate assistance in the land administration process. As a result, people tend to postpone land registration even though they socially or customarily possess clear ownership rights.

Several previous studies and community service programs have shown that land law counseling and socialization activities positively influence public awareness regarding the importance of land certification. Socialization programs conducted by the government and higher education institutions in various regions generally focus on providing administrative information related to requirements, procedures, and benefits of land registration. However, most of these programs remain one-way activities and do not actively involve the community in identifying problems or solving the obstacles they face during the registration process. In addition, the sustainability of assistance after the completion of socialization activities is still limited, resulting in less optimal long-term impacts on increasing public participation in land registration.

Based on these conditions, the Participatory Action Research (PAR) method was selected for this community service activity because it emphasizes the active involvement of the community as both subjects and partners in the problem-solving process. Through this participatory approach, the community not only receives counseling materials but is also involved in identifying obstacles, discussing solutions, and taking concrete actions to better understand sporadic land registration procedures. This method is considered relevant because it can build deeper legal awareness, strengthen the community's sense of ownership toward the program, and encourage collective and sustainable behavioral changes. Therefore, the community service activity does not merely focus on knowledge transfer but also promotes community empowerment in the field of land affairs.

The research gap in this study lies in the limited number of community service activities and studies specifically examining the effectiveness of participatory approaches in improving public understanding of sporadic land registration at the village level. Previous studies have mainly focused on normative legal aspects and land policy issues, while research integrating legal counseling with community empowerment through the PAR approach remains relatively limited. Furthermore, only a few studies have highlighted rural communities with limited access to information and low legal awareness as the main focus in efforts to increase participation in land registration. Therefore, this community service activity is expected to contribute both practically and academically to the development of participatory-based land counseling models for communities.



## **B. METHODS**

The method used in this activity was the Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach, which actively involves the community in every stage of the program implementation. PAR was chosen because it emphasizes collaboration between researchers and the community in identifying problems, implementing actions, and evaluating the outcomes collectively.

The stages of the activity included:

1. **Planning:** identifying community problems through observation and interviews regarding public understanding of sporadic land registration.
2. **Action:** conducting counseling, socialization, and community service activities related to land registration procedures and legal certainty of land ownership.
3. **Observation:** observing the level of community participation, enthusiasm, and understanding during the implementation of the activities.
4. **Reflection:** evaluating the implementation and outcomes of the activities to identify improvements and future follow-up actions.

This community service activity was conducted in Sindang Jaya Village and targeted residents who had not yet registered or certified their land ownership. The participants consisted of village officials and local community members of Sindang Jaya Village, with a total of 49 participants attending the program. The community characteristics showed that most participants had limited knowledge regarding land registration procedures, legal requirements, and the benefits of land certification. In addition, several participants perceived land registration as a costly and complicated process, which contributed to the low level of participation in land certification programs. The involvement of village officials was important in supporting communication, mobilizing community participation, and facilitating the implementation of the activity.

Data collection techniques used in this activity included observation, interviews, group discussions, and documentation. Observations were conducted to identify community responses and participation during the program. Interviews and discussions were used to explore participants' understanding, experiences, and challenges related to land registration. Documentation was carried out to record activity implementation, attendance, and supporting evidence of the program. The collected data were analyzed using a descriptive qualitative method.

The indicators of success in this activity included:

1. Increased public understanding regarding the importance, procedures, and legal benefits of sporadic land registration.
2. Active participation of community members during counseling and discussion sessions.
3. Increased awareness and motivation among participants to register their land ownership legally.
4. Positive responses from village officials and community members regarding the implementation of the activity.



5. The establishment of better communication and cooperation between the community and village authorities concerning land administration issues. The evaluation instruments used in this activity included observation sheets, interview guidelines, attendance lists, documentation records, and participant response questionnaires. Observation sheets were used to assess participant engagement and interaction during the sessions. Interview guidelines helped collect in-depth information regarding participants' understanding and perceptions before and after the activity. Attendance lists were used to measure participation rates, while questionnaires were distributed to evaluate participant satisfaction and the effectiveness of the counseling materials delivered.

## **C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1.1 Implementation of Activities**

The community service activity was carried out through land law counseling and interactive discussions with the community of Sindang Jaya Village. The materials presented included:

- Procedures for sporadic land registration
- Administrative requirements for land registration
- Legal benefits of land certificates
- The importance of legal certainty in land ownership rights

The activity was conducted using a participatory approach by involving both community members and village officials in the discussion process. Participants were given opportunities to express their questions, experiences, and challenges related to land registration procedures. Community participation was relatively high, as reflected in the participants' enthusiasm during the activity, active involvement in discussions, and the large number of questions raised regarding registration procedures and costs. The presence of village officials also supported better communication between the community and local administrative authorities.

### **1.2 Improving Community Understanding**

After the implementation of the activity, the community demonstrated increased understanding regarding:

- Procedures for sporadic land registration
- Administrative requirements that must be fulfilled
- The importance of land legality and legal certainty
- The legal benefits of land certificates as valid proof of ownership

In addition to improving knowledge, the community also became more aware that land registration is not merely an administrative requirement but also a form of legal protection for land ownership rights. Community members became more willing to seek information and consult with village officials regarding land registration procedures.



### **1.3 Impact of the Activity**

This community service activity produced several positive impacts, including:

- Increased public legal awareness regarding the importance of land certificates
- Increased motivation among community members to legally register their land
- Potential reduction of land disputes and overlapping ownership claims in the future
- Improved public access to information and land administration services
- Strengthened communication and cooperation between the community and village officials

These findings are consistent with community counseling theory, which states that educational and assistance programs can improve public awareness, understanding, and behavioral change regarding legal and social issues. Interactive counseling proved to be more effective because participants were not only passive recipients of information but were also actively involved in the learning and problem-solving process.

### **1.4 Critical Reflection**

Although the activity was successfully implemented and received positive responses from the community, several challenges were identified during the process. Some community members still expressed concerns regarding the costs of obtaining land certificates and perceived the administrative procedures as complicated. In addition, differences in educational backgrounds and legal understanding among participants required the materials to be delivered in a simple and repetitive manner to ensure comprehension by all participants. The activity also demonstrated that a single counseling session is insufficient to fully change community behavior. Continuous assistance and collaboration among village authorities, land administration agencies, and higher education institutions are necessary to ensure that the community can independently carry out land registration procedures. Therefore, program sustainability is considered an essential factor in creating more significant and sustainable social change.

### **1.5 Theoretical Analysis of Participatory Action Research (PAR)**

From the perspective of Participatory Action Research (PAR) theory, this activity demonstrates that active community involvement in every stage of the program can enhance the effectiveness of community service activities. In the PAR approach, the community is not positioned merely as the object of the program but as active subjects involved in identifying problems, implementing actions, and evaluating outcomes.

The implementation of PAR in this activity can be seen through community participation in expressing the problems they faced regarding land registration and their involvement in discussions to identify possible solutions. This approach created a process of collective learning that enabled the community not only to gain knowledge but also to develop critical awareness regarding the importance of land legality.

Theoretically, PAR emphasizes social change through collective action and community empowerment. The results of this activity indicate that a participatory approach can

strengthen the community's sense of ownership toward the program. Community members became more active, open, and motivated to participate in resolving land-related issues within their environment. Therefore, the PAR approach is considered relevant and effective for community service activities aimed at improving legal awareness and empowering rural communities.

### 1.6 Activity Documentation



Figure 1



Figure 2

The following is a comparative table of the results obtained by the Sindang Jaya community before and after the implementation of land counseling and socialization related to sporadic land registration:

Table 1. Comparison Before and After Training

No	Before Training	After Training
1	Low; people did not understand the importance of land registration	Improved; people understand the function and benefits of land registration
2	Limited; many assumed informal proof was sufficient for ownership	Increased; people realize the importance of land certificates as legal proof
3	Low; many lands were not yet registered	Increased; people started registering their land sporadically
4	Lack of knowledge about procedures, requirements, and costs	Better understanding of procedures, requirements, and estimated costs
5	Low; perception that the process was complicated and expensive	Increased; people are more confident and willing to engage with institutions



6	High; unclear boundaries and ownership	Reduced; legal certainty through certification minimizes disputes
7	Passive; limited initiative to seek information or process registration	Active; people become more proactive in land registration
8	Limited; lack of information on where and how to access services	Improved; people know where and how to access available services

#### D. CONCLUSION

Sporadic land registration outreach and socialization activities have proven effective in increasing public understanding and awareness. The PAR approach creates participatory and contextual learning.

These activities also contribute to supporting government programs and have the potential to reduce land disputes. Further assistance is recommended to assist communities in the land registration process.

#### E. AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Implementation : Fitri Wahyuni, Asep Somantri, Sarah

Rahmadika Article preparation : Dini Rizki Rahayu

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