

***KIMEKOMI* WORKSHOP AS THE COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES TO RECYCLE THE FABRIC WASTE IN THE SOCIETY**

Zulvia KHALID^{1*}, Kartini ISTIKOMAH² and Alivia ZYLLANROVA³

^{1,2}*Universitas Budi Luhur, Jakarta*

³*BINUS University*

**zulvia.khalid@budiluhur.ac.id*

ABSTRACT

Waste problem is a multidimensional phenomenon that often occurs frequently in many Indonesian cities, including Tangerang. Every day, various activities and businesses ranging from households to industry generate waste, resulting in an ever-increasing amount of waste. One type of business that produces waste is a tailoring or sewing business. In their activities of producing clothes, the tailoring businesses cannot be separated from the leftover fabric. The leftover fabrics would generate waste that could be hazardous to the environment and public health if they were not properly managed. Certain activities or skills are required to convert the fabric waste into useful products. Therefore, it is critical for lecturers to provide trainings that can improve the community's skills to utilize the fabric waste so that the reduction of waste can be carried out. *Kimekomi*, a Japanese art-based skill training is one of the trainings that may turn the leftover fabrics into economically valuable products. The method used in the training is a workshop. Participants get the opportunity to directly practice the material presented and apply the skills taught, and solve the difficulties they face together. The activity was targeting women who were sewing business actors in Tangerang area. The result of this community service activity is tailor workers have the abilities to convert the leftover fabrics into craft products which have commercial value and at the same time can reduce the fabric waste.

Keywords: creative industry, *Kimekomi*, training, fabric waste

1. BACKGROUND

Garbage or waste is one of Indonesia's environmental issues which has become a scourge over the decades and is increasingly difficult to manage. According to the World Health Organization, waste is something that is not used, not liked or something that is thrown away that comes from human activities and does not happen by itself (Jayadi et al., 2022). Various activities, ranging from households to large factories produce waste every day which results in piles of garbage everywhere. The volume of garbage, which comprises of 154 regencies/cities throughout Indonesia, reached 18.2 million tons/year in 2021, according to data from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. Waste that is adequately managed accounts for just 13.2 million tons per year, or 72.95% of total waste. This is owing to the restricted capacity of trash disposal facilities, including Final Processing Sites (*Tempat Pemrosesan Akhir/ TPA*) and Temporary Shelter Sites (TPS), as well as a lack of established waste management standards (Fahmi & Chair, 2022).

Fabric waste is one type of inorganic waste which is difficult to process. The amount of textile (fabric) waste produced has steadily increased over the past decades due to the increased consumption of textiles worldwide (Sanchis-sebastiá et al., 2021). Therefore, it could become hazardous to the environment. According to the data released by Ministry of Environment in 2018, fabric waste is the sixth largest waste in Indonesia with organic 60% stuff, plastic 14%, paper 9%, rubber 5.5%, metal 4.3%, fabric 3.5 %, glass 1.7%, others 1.7% (Hanifa & Winwin Wiana, 2022). All of the waste can be directly affecting the human world socially, economically, and environmentally (Nedeera W.A.A.P, et.al, 2022). The community must start implementing the 3R system: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle. The application of this 3R system can be one solution in reducing the production of waste. Reuse means reusing waste that can still be used for the same function or other functions. Reduce means reducing everything that causes waste, and recycle means reprocessing (recycling) waste into useful new goods or products (Istikomah et al., 2019).

Even though cloth (fabric) waste is not the largest contributor to the waste problem in Indonesia, it needs to be handled because there are still very fewer industries that recycle fabric waste comparing to paper, plastic, and others. Therefore, fabric waste processing that can be done at this time is recycling. It is a key concept in modern waste management. Recycling is the reprocessing of waste materials into new or reusable products. Ninety-nine percent of post-consumer textiles are recyclable (Rani & Jamal, 2018). There are several ways to recycle fabric waste, including making handicrafts. With creativity, waste can be processed into artistic and commercial products or crafts that can advance the creative industry in the country.

The creative industry has a very significant role in boosting the economy which can increase the public welfare, opening new jobs and reducing unemployment (Husin et al., 2021). The creative industry is a strategic sector in Indonesia's economic development that needs to be continuously supported and encouraged not only by the

government, but also by all elements of Indonesian society, including educational institutions. Lecturers, as one element in Higher Education Institutions, are required to be able to contribute and play an active role in the efforts to develop the creative economy in the community. The creative economy or creative industry is an industry that originates from the use of individual creativity, skills, and talents to create prosperity and employment by generating and exploiting the creative power, art and creativity of the individual.

The provision of creative industry training in order to develop entrepreneurial skills or entrepreneurship to members of the Indonesian community is very important to carry out. The form of training can be in the form of art-based skills training such as painting, handicrafts, and environmentally-based creative industries such as the art of processing waste, assembling used goods, and other industries that have innovation and creativity.

One form of art-based training that can be done in order to develop creative industries in the community is *Kimekomi* skills from Japan. *Kimekomi* is the art of decorating cloth using patchwork as the main material. *Kimekomi* is a patchwork which was first developed as a method for making dolls in Japan in the 18th century (<https://ornamentdesigns.com/kimekomi>). Through the development of *Kimekomi* skills, the economic value of a product can be increased so that it can have a higher selling power and can provide business benefits while at the same time opening a home industry or other larger industrial scales.

Based on the observation and interview with the Person in Charge in Komunitas Tailor Indonesia, Tangerang, the following are the problem that have been formulated:

- a. How to use the leftover fabric in the form of patchwork using Kimekomi technique to recycle fabric garbage?
- b. How to produce products that can increase the income of members of the Indonesian Tailor Community in the Tangerang Area through Kimekomi training?
- c. What is the strategy for marketing handicraft products in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic?

This activity can contribute science, skills and arts for the surrounding community, increase participants' insight and knowledge about *Kimekomi* skills as an effort to develop the creative industry, improve creativity and artistic skills that can develop entrepreneurial skills, provide added value to any kinds of patchwork because it can be applied to other clothes, bags and others, and encouraging the growth of creative industries by creating business opportunities and create new jobs in the community.

2. METHODS

Community service activities are implemented in the form of a workshop through the *Kimekomi* Craft Training activity. Participants get the chance to immediately practice the content given and use the skills taught, as well as work together to solve problems. The training materials, techniques and approaches carried out can be effective and on target. The training begins with the provision of basic material on *Kimekomi* skills, types and techniques of *Kimekomi* and business opportunities that can be created.

Time and Venue

Community service activities were carried out on August 1, 2020 for 5 hours in Pondok Pucung Village, Karang Tengah District, Tangerang City.

The target participants

The target participants for this activity are tailor workers, particularly female members of the Indonesian Tailor Community, in Tangerang Region.

Activity Methods

The training activities begins with situation analysis and identifying waste problems in Tangerang, literature study, preparation of activities, implementation of activities, evaluation of activities and ends with making a final report of activities. In general, the activity consists of: Several stages of activities that have been carried out:

- a. Planning

In planning the program, there several were conducted, started from observation. At this stage, communication was carried out with the Coordinator of the Indonesian Tailor Community, Education and Training Program, Tangerang Region. Brief interview was intended to find out the activities that have been carried out and needed by the Indonesian Tailor Community in the future. Based on the interview result, several problems were formulated and there is a need to provide Crafting Training for members of *Komunitas Tailor Indonesia, Tangerang* (the Tangerang Indonesian Tailor Community) to solve the fabric waste problem.

After observing the situation, formulating problems and needs of PKM partners, then all these activities were poured into one proposal for Community Service (PKM).

b. Implementing

The training was divided into two sessions:

1) Presentation

There are two materials were delivered in the presentation session. First material was about explanation of basic knowledge of *Kimekomi* techniques, types and materials required in doing the *Kimekomi*. The second presentation was about Business Opportunities and Marketing Strategy “Strategies for Starting a *Business* and Promotion of MSMEs”

2) *Kimekomi* Workshop

There are some materials and equipment were needed in doing the *Kimekomi* technique, such as foamboard poly foam, leftover fabric (fabric waste) glue, sticker paper, scissors, pen cutter and fabric slipper. Overall workshop activities consist of drawing, cutting, sticking, slicing and tucking.

Program Evaluation

In the last session, participants are required to fill out a questionnaire and interview some community members about the achievement and benefit of the program.

The whole community service activities from the start to finish is illustrated in the flowchart below:

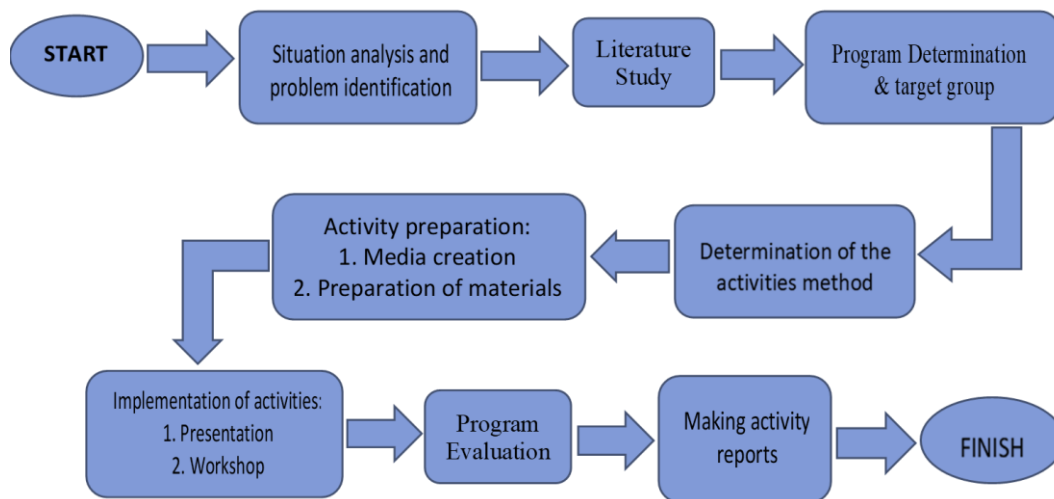


Figure 1. Flowchart of Community Service Activities

Success Indicator

Indicators of the success of community service activities at the Indonesian Tailor Community in Tangerang are increasing knowledge and skills in processing fabric waste into goods of economic value and marketing strategies.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community service activity with the title " *Kimekomi* Patchwork Workshop as the Community Service Activities to Recycle the Fabric Waste in the Society, “ for Members of the Indonesian Tailor Community (*Komunitas Tailor Indonesia*) Tangerang Area" was followed by 24 participants in attendance. They were enthusiastically participate in the activity, from the first to the end of the program.

The training program consists of two stages; presentation of material (lecture) and workshop activities. The material of presentation session was delivered through power point presentations on basic knowledge and techniques of *Kimekomi*, its business opportunities, and the idea of opening a *Kimekomi* business, especially through online sales via Instagram.



Figure 2. *Kimekomi* Technique and Marketing Presentation

In the workshop session, participants got the opportunity to directly practice the material presented and apply the skills taught, and could solve the difficulties they face together. Direct training was delivered by lecturers who have *Kimekomi* skills so that the training materials, techniques and approaches could be effective and on target.

The whole series of workshop activities starting from cutting, pasting, slashing and tucking is presented in the following figure:



Figure 3. Series of Workshop Activities, *Kimekomi* Process



Figure 4. Workshop Activity



Figure 5. The Output of the Workshop

During the training there were no obstacles that hindered the smooth running of the activities, from the beginning to the end. All participants were actively involved during the workshop and very attentive during the presentation session.

4. CONCLUSION

Garbage is a complex problem that must be a concern not only by the government, but also by the entire Indonesian nation without exception. Lecturers as members of the academic community, should have more awareness to try to overcome, or at least reduce the amount of waste generated in the community.

Although cloth waste is not the largest contributor of waste in Indonesia, it is necessary to reduce cloth waste because cloth waste is inorganic waste, which is difficult to decompose so that it can be harmful to the environment.

One of the efforts that can be made to utilize the remaining fabric is to use it into handicrafts that have artistic value and economic value. The method used in this community service activity is Kimekomi training, which is delivered in the form of workshops and presentations.

Kimekomi training is an activity that is very useful in developing creativity and art in the community, especially for the housewives who are members of the Indonesian Tailor Community in Tangerang Region. In addition to providing additional knowledge about the creative industry, this training also provides additional skills such as marketing, so that they can open up business opportunities that can be used to improve the family economy.

Since the value of art is determined by skill and perseverance during production, the hours of training are not enough to produce the greatest work. Improving community skills to carry out his PKM activities is one of the major activities to improve community welfare.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This article has been extracted from *Laporan PKM* Universitas Budi Luhur, Jakarta. The authors thank all contributors for their contribution.

REFERENCES

- Fahmi, M. F., & Chair, M. S. (2022). *Sistem Informasi Pengelolaan Sampah Nasional*. BSILHK. <https://bsilhk.menlhk.go.id/index.php/2022/06/02/>
- Hanifa, S. N., & Winwin Wiana. (2022). *Pemanfaatan Limbah Kain Batik dengan Teknik Sospeso Transparente sebagai Garnitur Busana Pesta*. 2(1), 2022.
- Husin, R., Hidayah, N., & Mukmin, T. M. (2021). *Creative Industries in Supporting Indonesia 's Economic Growth in Innovation Perspective*. Business and Economic Journal, 12(S2).
- Istiqomah, N., Mafruhah, I., & Gravitiani, E. (2019). *Konsep Reduce, Reuse, Recycle dan Replace dalam Pengelolaan Sampah Rumah Tangga di Desa Polanharjo Kabupaten Klaten*. Jurnal SEMAR, 8(2), 30–38.
- Jayadi, Y. I., Malappiang, F., Susanti, S., Masyarakat, P. K., Kedokteran, F., Islam, U., & Alauddin, N. (2022). *Daur Ulang Sampah Anorganik*. Jurnal Pengabdian Barelang, 4(1), 60–65.
- Nedeera W.A.A.P, Karunarathna D.D.A, Madushan D.M.H, Ferdinando K.P.M.D.D.L, Parera G.D.V, A. W. L. . (2022). *Solid Waste Management in Textile Industry*. Journal of Research Technology & Engineering, 3(1), 1–7. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-4230-2_57
- Rani, S., & Jamal, Z. (2018). *Recycling of Textiles Waste for Environmental Protection*. 4(1), 164–168.
- Sanchis-sebastiá, M., Ruuth, E., Stigsson, L., Galbe, M., & Wallberg, O. (2021). *Novel Sustainable Alternatives for the Fashion Industry: A Method of Chemically Recycling Waste Textiles via Acid Hydrolysis*. Waste Management, 121, 248–254. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wasman.2020.12.024>