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CENTER ON CHILD PROTECTION & WELLBEING

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Understanding Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues in Indonesia

A PUSKAPA
STUDY REPORT



Authorship

The study 'Understanding Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues in Indonesia' was developed and produced by the Center on Child Protection and Wellbeing at Universitas Indonesia (PUSKAPA). We thank the youth and non-youth participants who shared their stories and knowledge during the consultations, focus group discussions, and interviews for this study. We also thank those who supported the entire process of conducting this study and preparing the report.

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Foreword

Today's youth hold the key to a sustainable future, as they will inherit the consequences of our present actions. Their role in addressing climate change and environmental challenges is vital, and it is the duty of governments, organizations, and society to ensure they have a meaningful voice in shaping policy and decision-making. PUSKAPA recognizes the importance of youth civic engagement as a fundamental right that deserves protection and support.

It is crucial to emphasize that supporting and protecting youth civic engagement must go beyond mere tokenism or empty sentiment in program proposals and campaign promises. Genuine youth involvement requires a commitment to creating spaces where young people can meaningfully participate in decision-making processes, voice their concerns, and contribute their ideas and solutions. This requires ongoing investment in capacity-building, mentorship, and resources that enable youth to become confident and informed advocates. Only through sustained and meaningful engagement can we ensure that the passion and potential of our youth are harnessed effectively to drive positive change in climate and environmental action, as well as in other vital societal issues.

Over the past few years, we have been analyzing and studying youth engagement in various public policies and socio-political issues in Indonesia. Our study report, "Understanding Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues in Indonesia," delves into the ever-increasing role young people are taking in addressing the urgent crises we face.

This report aims to provide insights and guidance for both youth and those who seek to collaborate with them in creating impactful change. It presents findings, discussions, and recommendations for fostering effective and inclusive youth engagement in climate and environmental matters, as well as other crucial societal concerns.

We invite you to read and engage with this report, using its insights to inform and enhance your work. Together, we can empower the next generation to take the reins in securing a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient world.

Warm regards,

Dr. Santi Kusumaningrum
PUSKAPA Director

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
Bappenas	Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Nasional/National Development Planning Agency
BNPB	Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana/National Disaster Management Agency
Bumdes	Badan Usaha Milik Desa/Village-Owned Enterprise
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ENGO	Environmental Non-government Organization
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GIDKP	Gerakan Indonesia Diet Kantong Plastik/Indonesian Plastic Bag Diet Movement
ITE Law	Electronic Information and Transactions Law
IYCTC	Indonesia Youth Council on Tobacco Control
KII	Key Informant Interview
KLA	Kota Layak Anak/Child-Friendly District (City)
KLHK	Kementerian Lingkungan Hidup dan Kehutanan/Ministry of Environment and Forestry
KPK	Komisi Pemberantasan Korupsi/Corruption Eradication Commission
K-pop	Korean Pop Music
LTKL	Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari/ Indonesia's Sustainable Districts Association
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Government Organization
P3KT	Panduan Pelibatan Partisipasi Kaum Muda dalam Isu Pengendalian Tembakau/ Guideline for Meaningful Youth Participation in Tobacco Control Issues
PBLHS	Peduli dan Berbudaya Lingkungan Hidup di Sekolah/Care and Culture of the Environment in Schools
Permen	Peraturan Menteri/Ministerial Regulation

Abbreviation	Definition
Permendikbud	Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan/Ministry of Education and Culture Regulation
Permenpora	Peraturan Menteri Pemuda dan Olahraga/Ministry of Youth and Sport Regulation Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari
PLTU	Pembangkit Listrik Tenaga Uap/Steam Power Plants
PP	Peraturan Pemerintah/Government Regulation
Proklam	Program Kampung Iklim/Climate Village Program
SCC	She Creates Change
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
UU	Undang-Undang/Act (Law)
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
YDI	Youth Development Index



Executive Summary

The current climate and environmental crises will affect the lives of future generations. However, it is adults who are making the decisions in terms of preventing and dealing with these crises, while they are the ones who are less likely to suffer the consequences. Recently, youths worldwide have become more active in acting against these climate and environmental crises. What about youths in Indonesia?

Although youth participation is widely touted as essential for addressing climate and environmental issues, youth participation in Indonesia still faces challenges in tokenism and exclusion. Various publications on climate and environmental crises have highlighted the role of Indonesian youths in environmental activism and their adoption of more environmentally conscious lifestyles. However, their role in advocating for changes in policy, governance, or practices at the community level has remained underexamined.

This study recognizes that civic engagement, loosely termed activism in this report, is a right that must be protected and supported for it to be meaningful. This study, therefore, aims to understand this topic more systematically because we, as researchers, believe that youth engagement is necessary for a more effective response to and mitigation of the impacts of the current climate and environmental crises. The study also identifies the various forms of support necessary for youths to build and sustain movements and organizations that are strategic, evidence-based, and effective in delivering Indonesia's climate and environmental reform agenda. More broadly, this same strategy may also apply to other reform agendas.

The study collected the primary data from consultations/focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs), and in-depth case study interviews with 60 youth activists. The participants of the FGDs and KIIs were purposively invited based on their experience working on climate and environmental or youth activism in general. The study ensured that the participants represented different age groups, gender, locations, and interests. For the case study, two samples were identified based on their success in pushing for change in climate and environmental issues as recommended by their peers. The other two were a youth group and a youth initiative inside a non-youth organization working outside of climate and environmental topics, also endorsed by their peers. In addition, the study

reviewed 57 publications screened from 771 captured through a systematic literature search and assessed relevant laws and policies.

As a result, this study maps the landscape of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia by examining youths' characteristics, the climate and environmental topics that youths consider important, and the various forms of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia. In mapping this landscape, the study has identified several supports already in place, as well as gaps that still need to be filled regarding the facilitation of youth engagement. Based on its examination of youth characteristics, this study illustrates that engagement still needs to be expanded toward youths in younger age groups, in non-urban contexts, from more diverse socioeconomic groups, and with different abilities. Such an effort should also be thoughtful of involving the leadership of young women, marginalized people, and communities directly affected by climate and environmental crises.

This study finds that youth engagement in climate and environmental activism relates to an awareness of their essential role as active players in the climate and environmental movement. The commitment of youths to civic action tends to focus on topics closely related to their daily lives, such as the causes of climate and environmental crises and the impact and mitigation of climate and environmental crises on natural habitats as well as society more broadly.

Furthermore, capacity building, campaigns, and protests were youths' most preferred forms of civic engagement across all climate and environmental topics. Meanwhile, youths are less likely to mention or participate in research and policy advocacy activities. Governmental and non-governmental support and facilitation should focus more on expanding the range of climate and environmental activities for youths so that such activities, for example, can bring together youths who have extensive experience in community assistance and can involve youths in campaigns with others who are already intensely engaged in policy research and advocacy. This study recognizes that the interests and capacities of participants differently influence various forms of engagement. Therefore, facilitating more collaborative work is a strategic objective for the future.

In addition to mapping the landscape of youth engagement, this study also explores the various enabling factors and barriers to youth civic engagement across all dimensions, including commitment, skill, action, and social cohesion. Each of these factors is linked to and influenced by their engagement pathway. Individual factors emerge predominantly as enablers of youths' civic commitment, particularly in youth-initiated community engagement. Youths tend to take civic action according to their particular abilities in spaces they can access and where they feel safer and more welcome. This engagement pathway is primarily influenced by the degree of social cohesion that emerges from social interactions with fellow youths and the availability of digital information and communication platforms that can support the various dimensions of civic engagement. At the same time, the shared motivation and work ethics among youths still could not fully equip them with the skills and access to compete with the more established organizations or senior activists for funding and influence.

Although youth communities are frequently perceived as a more open and accessible engagement pathway, international environmental non-government organizations (ENGOS) and local civil society organizations (CSOs) remain the dominant means through which youth civil movements for climate and environmental action emerge. Engagement pathways provided by ENGOS and CSOs tend to be linked to the entry points through which youths interact with more diverse climate and environmental stakeholders, including the ones making policy decisions. Furthermore, ENGOS and CSOs can provide more infrastructure support for skill building and civic action because of their experience and more established forms of organization, governance, and access to resources. However, such infrastructure has yet to support the durability of climate and environmental work and strategically support the sustainability of the CSOs or ENGOS.

Finally, multiple external factors, such as unsupportive or unclear policies, security risks, tokenism, and exclusion, were found to be barriers in the engagement pathways provided by government agencies, which therefore have been unable to be as effective in facilitating youth engagement as the other two engagement pathways.

The case study showcases that positive social interactions and networking activities with fellow youths, CSOs, government institutions, donors, and other stakeholders, contribute to supporting youth movements in achieving their agenda of change. Additionally, capacity-building support to strengthen the organization's civic action and management strategies positively facilitate youth initiatives.

Internally, youth movements always seek to build meaningful and inclusive engagement, although some activities in which they are involved still show signs of tokenism. The case study has also identified several external barriers that affect youth movements, including the COVID-19 pandemic, limited management and access to resources, and the lack of understanding among the broader community and other young people about climate change and environmental issues.

Lastly, the case study notes some of the achievements made by four observed climate and environmental movements, including the issuance of regulations that restrict the use of plastics in various areas, the increase of discussions on indigenous peoples' issues on social media, the rise of the number of climate and environmental campaigns and initiatives that are managed by youths, and the publication of various guidance and policy documents.

This study affirms that the potential of civic engagement by youths in climate and environmental issues is one we should pay attention to. Several positive results have emerged during the course of this study, and many youths have already acknowledged their effects. Improving the ecosystem of policies, programs, and practices is critical for supporting forms of engagement that can have the power to drive more systemic and holistic change. Such an improvement should start with efforts to expand and deepen government and non-government stakeholders' commitment to fostering youth engagement. It should also address the barriers to youth civic skill, civic action, and social cohesion in their civic engagement in climate and environmental issues. Civic engagement is a right that must be protected. It requires access to safe spaces for participation, empirical evidence and science-based action, the capacity of youths to carry out advocacy, campaigns, aid in the form of community assistance, and platforms and support for collaborative action.

Key Findings

The Landscape of Youth Engagement

Characteristics

This study identifies Indonesian youths with certain characteristics exposed to civic engagement. Figure 1 describes the characteristics of young people in climate and environmental activism.

Figure 1. Characteristics of Youth in Climate and Environmental Activism



Age

The study uses 16-30yo as case definition. Data suggest that youths are more open to definition. They often name their peers more as "students", "young worker", or "young activist" rather than using age. Some still consider their 40-something colleague as young.



Gender

Participants describe gender distribution in activism as "it's a mixed" and "balanced" between male and female. They note that ENGO and CSOs are mostly led by men.



Religion and Other Social Identity

- Self association: they want to take part because of shared identity (i.e. "pemuda islam", "BTS army")
- Social desire: they want to take part because they want to belong (i.e. "not an army but joined the BTS army call because i've been feeling the same way")



Education

Multi - level and discipline. Note that education may be a proxy of age and skills that allow them access and opportunities.



Profession

Multi-level and sector. Note that profession may be a proxy of skills that allow them access and opportunities. (i.e. ENGO workers, young civil servants, etc.)



Social Economic Status

"Middle-class urban" and Java islanders were predominantly mentioned, indicates linkage to access and social capital.



Social Capital

Network, resources, skills, teachability, Participants identify access to digital information, English skills/bilinguality, and access to policymaking or political institutions, as important social capitals.



Lived Experience

The non-java, urban, middle class individuals ("pemuda adat" dan "pemuda daerah") were characterized by their experiencing the implications of climate and environmental crises first-hand. Interestingly, this didn't apply to urban slum young people, as participants recognized that they're yet to be represented in the activism scene.

Those characteristics give us further insights into the landscape of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues.

- 1 Youths engaged in movements against climate and environmental crises possess various forms of social capital, such as opportunity, access to information, capacity, and relevant skills and interests. Most youth participants in this study are students, professionals working in the climate and environmental sector, and middle-class members living in urban areas. Other characteristics include being social media savvy, having access to a vast social network, and having personal experience with the impact of climate crises.
- 2 Despite evidence of engagement among indigenous youths, not much information is available on other youth groups, such as youths with disabilities or gender minorities and urban slum youths active in the climate and environmental movement.
- 3 Youths are engaged at an earlier age than before, regardless of their education level, occupation, or socioeconomic background. Furthermore, engagement has increased among indigenous youths, youths from rural and eastern Indonesia, and youth organizations organized around certain religious beliefs, interests, and fandoms.
- 4 Various characteristics of youths can be associated with their civic commitment and skill. For instance, civic commitment may vary among various generations of students, college students, and young workers, and commitment can also depend on their specific interests. The degree of civic commitment is also linked to access to information and social capital.

Topics that matter

This study provides a list of what climate and environmental topics matter to young people who participated in this study.

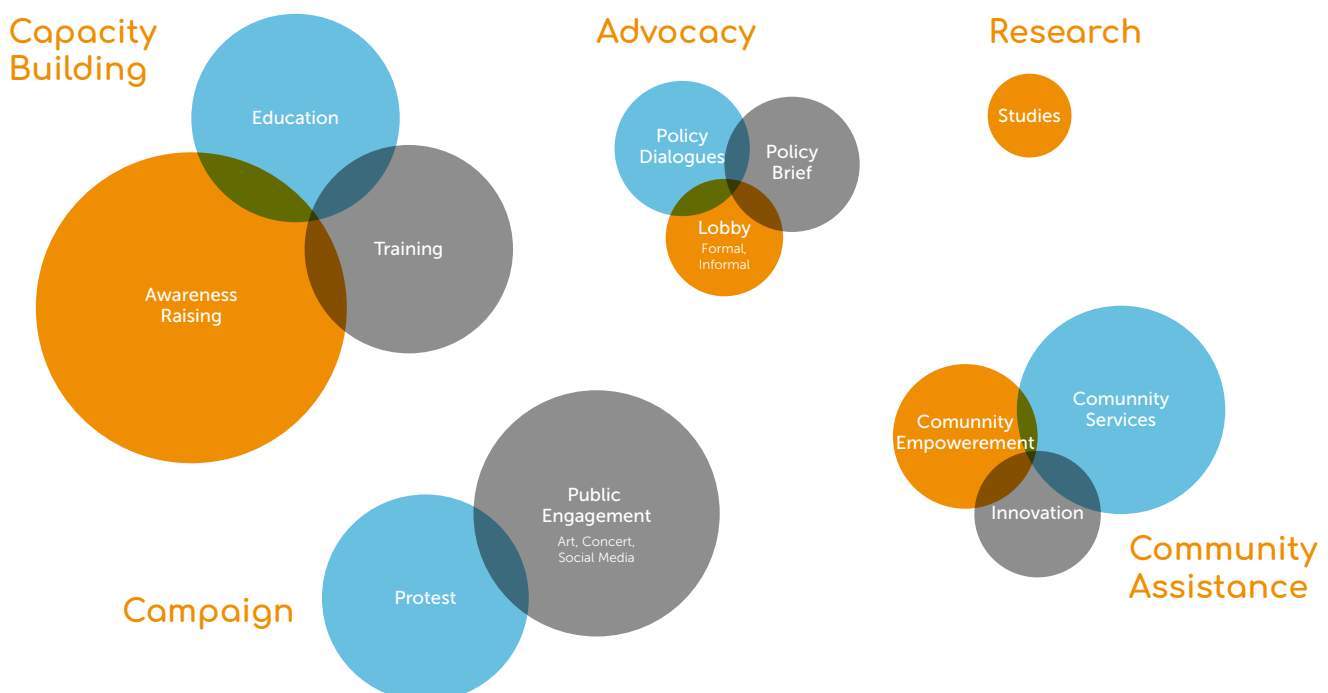
- 5 Youths generally have been exposed to issues about climate and environmental crises. Moreover, youths actively engaged in the climate and environmental movement consider such problems multidimensional and intersecting with issues of injustice. Some participants mentioned “intersectional environmentalism” in several discussions.
 - 6 Based on the list of climate and environmental topics that youths in this study deemed important, this study categorizes youths’ areas of concern into 1) Symptoms of climate and environmental crises, 2) Destructive actions that lead to the symptoms of climate and environmental crises, 3) Drivers of climate and environmental destruction (including economic, social, political, legal, and policy drivers), 4) Impact of the climate crises on the environment and its mitigation, and 5) Impact of the climate crises on vulnerable individuals and its mitigation. In addition, youths also mentioned several priority issues directly or indirectly related to climate and environmental crises: injustice, democracy, corruption, reproductive health, minority rights, disability rights, and religious conflicts.
- These additional issues may inform us about the potential entry points to bridge young people to climate and environmental issues.
- 7 Although youths have a multidimensional understanding of climate and environmental issues, their activism tends to focus on topics that are close to their lived experience and daily lives, such as environmental destruction, the impact of climate and environmental crises on people’s living conditions, and climate mitigation on a small or limited scale. This focus is also apparent in youths’ limited civic engagement with topics such as the symptoms of climate and environmental crises and the drivers of climate and environmental destruction, which typically requires a more systemic approach.

Forms of civic action

In some ways, the study finds that some youth characteristics may have contributed to their engagement in climate and environmental activism and could also dictate their engagement pathway and the type of activities in which they are involved.

- 8 This study observed an increase in youth civic action over the last five years, supported by a rise in youth awareness and a growth in media that facilitate youth civic engagement. Youths are increasingly concerned about climate and environmental issues and actively voice their opinions. In addition, various means to participate in activism are increasingly available online, thus opening up further opportunities for creative ways of youth engagement.
- 9 This study documents the activities identified by the study participants as their forms of civic action (Figure 2) and finds that capacity building and protest campaigns as two of the most prominent forms of youth civic action across all categories of topics concerning climate and environmental crises. These civic actions aim to address various “green” issues that have emerged primarily around the destructive actions that lead to the symptoms of climate and environmental crises and the consequences of climate and environmental crises.
- 10 Advocacy and research remain underdeveloped as forms of civic action. The advocacy activities that have been carried out so far are often in reaction to particular cases or regulations that concern youths and therefore tend to be more ad hoc. Meanwhile, participants rarely brought up research in conversations, which indicates that this is not yet seen as a supporting element of civic action or as a part of the youths’ civic engagement agenda. Nevertheless, the case study collected information on advocacy efforts initiated by youths through one selected organization that focuses on policy change.

Figure 2. Forms of Civic Actions in Climate and Environmental Activism Identified by Participants in this Study



Engagement pathway

This study identifies three participation pathways for youth engagement: 1) participation through youth-led initiatives, 2) participation through engagement by and with CSOs and environmental NGOs, and 3) participation through engagement by and with the government.

- 11 Of these three pathways, participation through youth-led initiatives is on the rise. This pathway provides safe and meaningful spaces for freedom of speech and youth participation, which could explain the rise of this phenomenon. Solidarity, collaboration, and networking are the hallmarks of social interactions among and within youth communities, where membership is more flexible and voluntary. The case study, for example, finds that some organizations/communities, although initiated by young people, did not limit their membership to people 30 years old or younger.
- 12 Youth-led initiatives offer what the participants identified as more equal and diverse engagement processes, but this pathway has shortcomings. The study participants recognized that youth-led communities and activities still need to improve their reach and accessibility to young people from different socioeconomic backgrounds and address the gendered division of labor where female activists handle planning and backstage roles. In contrast, male activists take on implementation and more front-stage roles. Furthermore, youths managing their own organization are only sometimes equipped to navigate the competition for funding and influence, especially among the more established entities or senior activists. There is also a sense of caution among youths in accepting funding support from ENGOs because there might be competing interests and a loss of control, which might eventually restrict youths' activities.
- 13 This study finds that youths generally have a positive experience when working in or engaging in activities or programs organized by CSOs and ENGOs. While engagement pathways through youth communities are increasing, youths have also gained access to organizational capacity building and broader professional networks through CSOs and ENGOs. However, such opportunities have yet to link with the more structured mentorship on the bigger picture of climate and environmental work and mobilization of resources.
- 14 The importance of the role of youths in formulating public policy has yet to lead to a rise in youth engagement by and with the government. The study recognizes that the opportunities for the younger generation to take on a public office role have become more available. In addition, some potential young civil servants have the ability and direct access to influence policies. Despite involvement in policy formulation through internal government activities, young government workers must face a bureaucratic maze and seniority. Meanwhile, youth engagement from outside the government system with policymaking remains ad hoc and exclusive.
- 15 Youth engagement in policy formulation and decision-making by the government remains occasional due to the limited number of climate and environmental issues that can be discussed with the government, the perspective of policymakers who deem youths as having an insufficient capacity for meaningful participation, and the burden placed upon youths to resolve the very issues they are raising.

Drivers and Barriers to Youth Engagement

This study identifies four factors that either enable or inhibit youth engagement: individual drive, social interaction, community/organization, and external factors. These factors drive civic commitment, civic action, civic skills, and social cohesion, which are the critical dimensions of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues.

- 16** This study identifies the individual drive as the primary factor for youth civic commitment in the climate and environmental movement. Individual factors include anxiety about the current and future impact of climate and environmental crises, the personal experience affected by such crises, interest in specific issues, indigenous identity, free time, prior experience in activism, and religious calling to preserve the environment. However, other factors, such as family support and socioeconomic status, can also pose challenges to youths who wish to engage in activism.
- 17** Social interaction is another enabling factor in promoting youths' civic commitment. Several participants mentioned that being involved in social networks, such as friendship or fan-based communities, encouraged them to participate in the climate and environmental movement. Interactions with adults – for example, mentors or role models – also incentivized youths to pursue activism.
- 18** Inclusive communities/organizations providing youths with a space to develop and express themselves are enabling factors for continuous civic commitment in the climate and environmental movement. In addition, external factors, such as enabling environments and policies, can also play a role in safeguarding and strengthening youth participation. However, this study finds that external factors remain challenging because there is still a lack of safe spaces for online and offline youth participation.
- 19** Individual factors, social interactions, and communities/organizations have a considerable influence on strengthening youths' civic skills. Supportive individual factors include educational background, socioeconomic status, access to information and resources, and experience with civic action. Supportive social interaction factors include interactions with other youth communities, CSOs, ENGOs, or the government, which can provide youths with civic skill-building experiences and activities. The civic skills of youths also need to be strengthened through capacity development in organizational management, critical thinking, and mental health management.
- 20** This study identifies social interaction as one of the primary factors driving social cohesion. Social interactions, both among youths and with adult stakeholders, can strengthen forms of social capital and thus connect youths in their effort to mobilize the climate and environmental movement. However, the focus of youth activism remains distributed across various issues, and this is a challenge that needs to be addressed by strengthening collaboration between communities.
- 21** This study finds that social cohesion has strengthened youths' civic skills. Collaboration and solidarity are being maintained within youth communities, encouraging youths to practice their civic skills and enhance their commitment to participating in community activities. Capacity-building activities through youth networks/alliance agendas also promote the acquisition of civic skills and improve social cohesion.
- 22** When it comes to civic actions, external factors play a dominant role in their effectiveness. Strategies to organize civic action and access to information through media and technology play a significant role in achieving the goals of such actions. Policies, as one of the external factors, play a critical role in providing safe spaces for youths to engage in civic action and institutionalizing the changes that youth movements hope to bring about.
- 23** Social interactions also positively contribute to various forms of civic action and can create further opportunities for civic action. Social interaction, both within and outside youth communities, provides opportunities for youths to network and to be exposed to various forms of civic actions, thus encouraging them to become more creative in their activism. Interactions with stakeholders have also resulted in a range of funding supports, partnerships, and mentorship that further foster the sustainability and potential success of youth civic action.

- 24** Youths know the risks of different civic actions and make calculated judgments in their activities. Participants in the study assigned different levels of risk to the climate and environmental activism they observed within and around them. Many online or 'safe' activities, such as cleaning the rubbish, were labeled low-risk activism. At the same time, offline protests against the government or big corporations were considered high-risk activism. Youths in organizations with good support systems and access to legal assistance tend to take a hard diplomacy approach, while those with limited support tend to take a softer diplomacy approach. One is not necessarily more effective than the other, and both are complementary in nature.
- 25** The role of social media in activism has been discussed in the literature, and the youth participants in this study have recognized its potential. This study observes that youths use social media for campaigning and managing their activism activities. Not only to disseminate one-way messages, but youth activists also use social media to recruit volunteers, facilitate people's involvement in direct protests, and discuss issues of climate and environmental crises. Despite its broad reach, the study participants realized that social media activism is not enough to create real change. Since social cohesion plays a significant incentive for youth engagement in climate and environmental activism, this study notes that social media-based efforts must still be coupled with on-the-ground community-building activities.

Policy aspects related to youth involvement in climate and environmental issues

This study categorizes laws and policies relevant to youth engagement as 1) Regulations that facilitate (or curb) freedom of expression or public participation, which are necessary for facilitating civic engagement, 2) Regulations that govern youth involvement, including their presence in various spaces and how they express opinions, and 3) Policies on climate and environmental issues that incorporate a public participation component.

- 26** Some regulations do not specifically pertain to youth participation. However, they have the potential to delimit the safe spaces that are available for the broader community, including young people, to express their opinions and participate in such public spaces. Some examples include the criminalization of defamation and blasphemy acts under the Indonesian penal code and the Electronic Information and Transactions law.
- 27** On the other side, when regulations formulate clauses on the involvement of young people, they tend to govern youth participation superficially. For example, youth participation in Youth-Friendly Districts/Cities policies is restricted to helping the program committee plan events and nominate districts/cities for an award.
- 28** This study spots a few regulations on climate and environmental issues that have the potential to weaken community participation, including that of young people, in preventing climate impact and environmental damage. Regulations that specify the mechanisms and stages of community participation inflict requirements for citizens, including youths, to participate. For example, the role and participation of the community in environmental conservation efforts are regulated under strict conditions. Moreover, several regulations were found to frame the community as passive recipients of government programs. At the same time, the rest generally only touched on community participation in an ambiguous manner and lacked technical elaboration.

Lessons from the success (and less successful) of youth movements

Although the study selected case studies based on youth organizations or initiatives' recognized success in advocating for change in pro-climate policy or practice, this study finds that there was yet an agreement on what is considered a "success" in climate and environmental activism. At the same time, the case study learns that youth activists and groups rarely design their civic actions using an evidence-informed theory of change that they can monitor and use to measure any progress or regress. Nevertheless, this study acknowledges the inroads that have been paved by youths and draws key lessons from the case study.

29 Positive social interactions that reflect solidarity among fellow youth organization members and support from adult actors in ENGO, CSO, donors, or local governments, greatly influence the success of young activists in realizing their agenda. Several organizational factors, including network, governance, and funding, play as catalysts in the youth movement's upward trajectory. In one case, this study observes that an influential figure plays a role in setting the course of an organization's movement and achievements. Interestingly, the organization aspires to be more of a "leaderless" movement or follow a holacratic structure. Further assessment is warranted to learn about the efficacy of such an approach, what can support the transition, and how it can be adopted by others with similar visions.

30 Similar to the main findings, the case study finds that enablers can pose as barriers under certain circumstances. On the one hand, strong leadership and healthy governance can facilitate growth in a youth movement. On the other hand, lack of commitment and poor management may hinder a movement's success. While solidarity among youth organization members was felt as a positive force, the voluntary nature of membership could prevent youth organizations from securing a long-term commitment from the activists. Lastly, uncertainties caused by a crisis, for example, the Covid-19 pandemic and financial resource mobilization, are continuously identified as one of the biggest challenges.



01

Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

The growing discussion on climate and environmental crises has not yet led to ways for effectively addressing the long-term consequences of their impact. The current destruction of the environment will affect the lives of younger generations even more. Moreover, those who are currently making the decisions on whether or not to act and how to mitigate the impact of climate and environmental crises, will not be affected by the negative impacts that will arise in the future.

Since youths will bear the brunt of the impact of climate and environmental crises in the future, we need to better understand the potential of youth engagement for influencing pro-climate policies. A study of children and youths in Indonesian cities found that they, in general, are concerned about the rising sea levels caused by climate change, floods, and drought (Kusumaningrum et al., 2021). Moreover, the Covid-19 pandemic has shown that the negative consequences of urban developments and external risks, including climate and environmental crises, often disproportionately affect vulnerable urban residents (Kusumaningrum et al., 2021).

However, child and youth participation is a goal that remains challenging to achieve in a meaningful way, particularly when it comes to climate and environmental issues. While more and more youths are active in pro-climate movements across the world, most of their activities are still limited to promoting “green” lifestyles, such as creating awareness about sustainable and ethical consumption among youths (Kim et al., 2020), while there is less emphasis on advocating for systemic change. A quick online search carried out by PUSKAPA confirmed this assumption because this found that, for the most part, youth activism in Indonesia is primarily centered on campaigning for an environmentally friendly lifestyle (PUSKAPA, 2020). Another survey of 1,000 high school students in Yogyakarta and Surabaya found that, while students were able to identify local problems such as waste, they were not well informed about national as well as global climate and environmental issues (Parker et al., 2018).

In addition to understanding the scale and depth of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues, the conceptualization and implementation of youth participation in Indonesian activism remain a work in progress. Indonesia’s Youth Development Index score increased from 48.67 in 2015 to 51.5 (on a 0-100 scale) in 2018 (Bappenas, 2020). While this shows progress, it also leaves a lot to still be desired. Participation is still often used as buzzword rather than actually implemented as part of a strategic reform. Even when participation is implemented, it tends to be done in a tokenistic, ad hoc, and exclusionary manner. As a result, participation is still largely piecemeal, involving only certain youths and not equally including vulnerable youths.

The government of Indonesia has recognized youths’ massive potential, but several obstacles and challenges remain. Despite its specific planning document in relation to Indonesia’s young population, the Indonesian Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs has not implemented a participatory approach to fostering meaningful engagement with youths (Ramadhan, 2013). The policy-making process has not yet engaged children and youth in an ethical and effective manner. What is more, Indonesia enforces some regulations that may limit the freedom of opinion, expression, and assembly, which are fundamental to meaningful engagement and the promotion of change (Mietzner, 2020).

Development partners are keen to support youth participation and engagement in strategies for addressing 21st-century issues, including climate and environmental issues. This goal is informed by two beliefs: first, the management of crises—including economic, social, health, environmental, and climate crises, must include youths as key stakeholders of the future; second, successful participation by and engagement with youths will, in turn, contribute to the successful mitigation of the impacts of these crises.

Therefore, support needs to be in place for Indonesian youths to build and sustain their civic engagement, strengthen movements and organizations for causes that affect the common good, and foster evidence-based and humanitarian commitment practices in order to bring about climate and environmental reform in Indonesia.



Methodology

2.1 Research Questions and Objectives

Based on the background presented above, this study formulates the following research questions:

- 1 What is the landscape of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia?
- 2 What are the drivers of youth engagement in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia?
- 3 What can we learn from models of youth engagement in Indonesia that have resulted in pro-climate or pro-environment changes in terms of policies, norms, or practices?

The answers to the above questions should achieve the following research objectives:

- 1 Document and gain understanding about the state of youth engagement in environmental issues in Indonesia, including the identification of existing gaps in the literature.
- 2 Identify challenges to and opportunities for youth engagement in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia, and enrich the current understanding of youth engagement in other social issues.
- 3 Identify multiple accounts of changes to policies, norms, or practices that are influenced by youth engagement, and analyze lessons learned from their successes or failures.

2.2 Key Concepts

Civic Engagement

In this study, civic engagement refers to the following dimensions:

- Civic action involves engagement and participation in activities that seek to better the community.
- Civic commitment or civic duty involves a wish to contribute positively to society.
- Civics skills define one's ability to engage in civil society, politics, and democracy. There are four main categories of civic skills: 1) ability to organize, 2) communication, 3) collective decision-making, and 4) critical thinking.
- Social cohesion is informed by a sense of reciprocity, trust, and bonding with others. Social cohesion manifests through diversity within communities, the determination to build relationships with others, the creation of support systems among and across diverse groups, and a positive perception of and response to the diverse views of different population groups within society.

Youths

Youths in this study are defined as individuals aged 16 to 30. While the UN defines youths as people aged 15-24, Youth Law No 40 of 2009 defines youths as people aged 16 to 30. To ensure that the study's recommendations are relevant to their context, this study adheres to the definition provided by the Government of Indonesia.

Climate and Environmental Justice

The terms 'climate justice' in this study refer to issues involving the social and economic impacts of climate crises as well as their impact on public health and other aspects of society, and especially on vulnerable groups (United Nations, 2019). Climate justice is a form of environmental justice that promotes fair treatment and meaningful engagement by all people – regardless of race, color, nationality, or income – in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental regulations and policies (EPA, 2020).

2.3 Data Collection

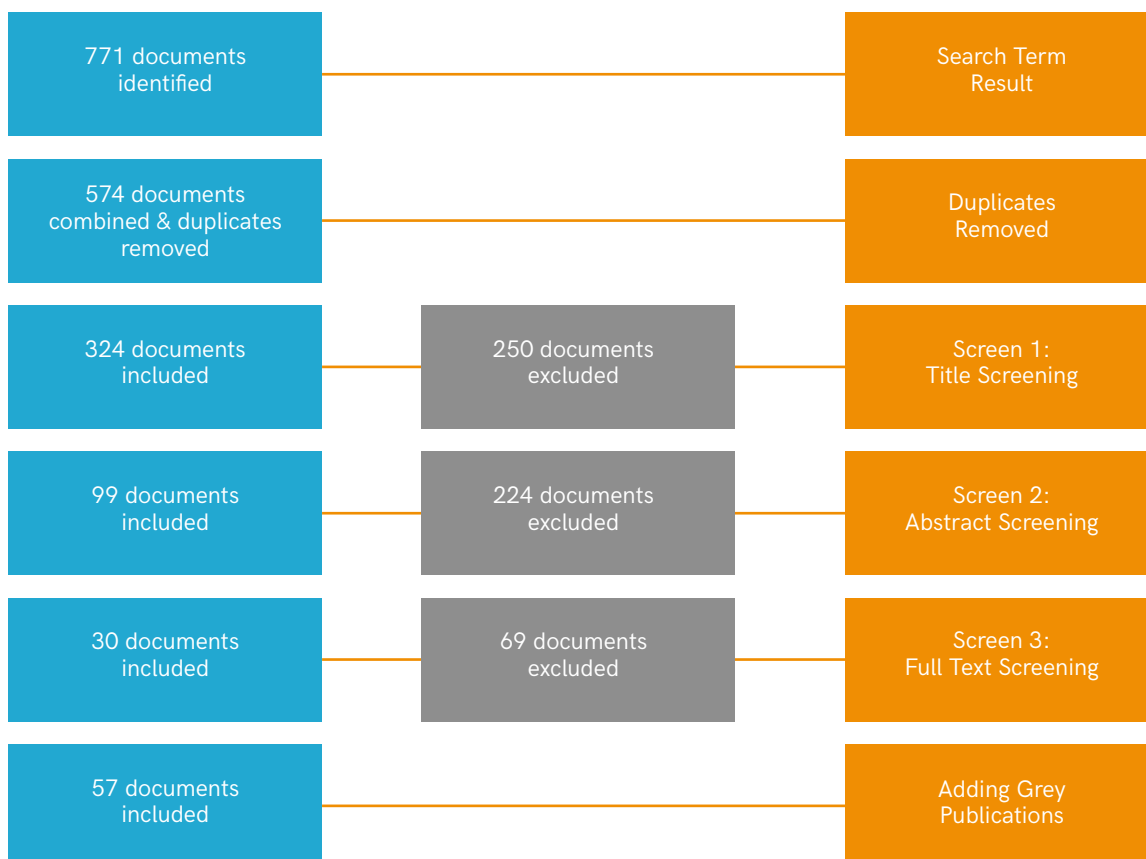
Stages of Data Collection

Data collection was conducted in two phases. In phase 1, the research began with a systematic literature review followed by primary data collection through consultations, focus group discussions (FGDs), and key informant interviews (KIIs). In the second stage, the research continued with a policy review and primary data collection through in-depth interviews with actors that are relevant to selected case studies. The process of primary data collection includes developing interview questions and manuals, training the research team to collect the data, selecting participants, and collecting, coding, and analyzing data. The entire data collection process was conducted online via Zoom or phone call.

Literature Review

The literature review was carried out systematically by applying Boolean principles during the identification of online search keywords. The literature search utilized various 'Library Search' platforms that are affiliated with PUSKAPA, such as those provided by the University of Indonesia, Columbia University, and the Australian National University. In addition, Google Scholar was used to find academic journals that would otherwise have been filtered out. All publications were stored and managed using Zotero's library reference software.

Diagram 1. Systematic Literature Review Process



This study only makes use of publications from the last ten years (2011-2021) to ensure that these are up-to-date and relevant to the current situation. Considering the sensitivity of search engines, initial literature research employed a combination of the following English keywords: "youth engagement", "youth participation", "youth" & "civic engagement", "youth civic engagement", "climate crisis", "climate change", "climate justice", "environment", "activism" and "Indonesia". To complement this analysis, further manual searches were carried out using publications found during the initial literature search and other relevant documents, such as reports and program documentation that were published by development agencies and civil society organizations as well as publications recommended by FGD participants and interview participants.

Initial research using keyword combinations resulted in 771 publications, from which 30 publications were selected based on three stages of filtering that employed inclusion criteria such as relevance and credibility. Further searches found 27 relevant research reports and technical reports. In total, we analyzed a total of 57 publications and documents.

Policy Review

Policy review was carried out in three stages:

- 1 Policies were identified based on interviews with key informants in stage 1, and a number of additional relevant regulations were added based on the researchers' considerations.
- 2 Researchers applied a snowball technique to the policies previously collected in stage 1 to obtain references to other relevant policies.
- 3 The researchers also conducted a policy search through Google's search engine using keywords such as "participation", "involvement", "youth", or "community", which were then rechecked to ensure that the results were relevant to the research question. Once this search for relevant regulations was completed, the researchers re-examined the results to ensure that there were no duplicates and that no further search was necessary.

The researchers then analyzed these regulations by examining their various elements, including:

- Characteristics of community or youth groups;
- The form and scope of participation or civic engagement;
- Requirements for participation or engagement;
- Articles that act as enablers or barriers to civic engagement.

These aspects were analyzed using tables that were constructed by two researchers independently. To ensure consistency, the two researchers reviewed, corrected, and discussed the obtained conclusions. Overall, the researchers analyzed 51 relevant policies based on predetermined criteria.

Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection consisted of two stages, namely conducting focus group discussions (FGD) and key informant interviews (KII) during stage 1, and carrying out case studies during stage 2. The data collection in stage 1 aimed to answer the first and second research questions, and the data collection in stage 2 aimed to answer the third research question (see section 2.1).

Step 1: Consultation/FGD and KII

Prior to data collection, PUSKAPA created a Community and Youth Network Database which became the first reference for selecting participants. The selection of participants for consultation was carried out by PUSKAPA and its partner, while FGD participants were selected based on the inputs from participants in the consultation. Participants were selected according to several predetermined criteria, such as age, experience with activism, representation of certain issues and organizations, and access to internet and digital devices. PUSKAPA staff and research assistants reached out to the parents/guardians of participants who were under-18 to obtain their consent.

This study involved three stages of primary data collection: consultations with youth and adult experts, FGDs, and KIs. Consultation sessions and FGDs lasted for a maximum of 2.5 hours, while interviews lasted for a maximum of 1 hour. Two consultations were conducted with experts from youth and adult groups. Furthermore, a total of six FGDs and 14 interviews were conducted during this study (see table 1 in Appendix 1 for detailed information).

Step 2: Case Studies

Case studies were conducted on youth movements that were purposively selected – based on the list of stage 1 participants – (type 1 movement). A second category of movements was added to complement the group of participants that are present in the first category (type 2 movement). The type 1 movement was selected using the following criteria:

- 1 Demonstrated success in influencing changes to systems, policies, or behaviors at the national, local, or community level that are relevant to climate and environmental issues;
- 2 Engaged in climate and environmental issues related to (i) human actions that cause climate and environmental destruction, (ii) factors that perpetuate acts of environmental destruction, and (iii) mitigation of environmental destruction and their impact on the environment and society;
- 3 Operate at the national and regional levels;
- 4 Initiated by youths.

Meanwhile, the type 2 movement included youth movements that did not participate in the Phase 1 study, which were selected using the following criteria:

- 1 The movement was not initiated by young people but involved youths in its programs, and specifically in actions pertaining to climate and environmental issues; or
- 2 The movement does not specifically focus on climate and environmental issues but is formed by young people and seeks to address their interests;

Based on the above criteria, two organizations/communities of type 1 movements were selected, namely the Indonesian Plastic Bag Diet Movement (GIDKP) and Jaga Rimba. Meanwhile, the type 2 movement consisted of the She Creates Change (SCC) Program and the Indonesia Youth Council on Tobacco Control (IYCTC). See Appendix 2 for detailed information on the selection considerations for each organization.

The process of collecting data for this case study was carried out through desk research and in-depth interviews. At the initial stage, desk research was conducted to obtain an initial description of the organizations' profile and background, their achievements and success stories, as well as any documentation on the development and management of these organizations/communities. The results of this desk research were used to deepen the interview instrument so that it could better capture the characteristics and idiosyncrasies of each organization/community in the study.

Desk research was carried out by searching online for various publications about each organization, reports and articles published by the organization/community, videos, and podcasts by members of the organization/community. When conducting interviews, the research team also directly asked informants for relevant documents and information that could be added to the existing database.

Furthermore, in-depth interviews were conducted individually or in groups via Zoom. In-depth interviews pertaining to type 1 movements were conducted with a maximum of 15 people per organization/community. Meanwhile, in-depth interviews pertaining to type 2 movements were conducted with a maximum of two informants per organization/community.

Key informants were divided into three types, namely: type A informants (internal-structural), type B informants (internal-technical), and type C informants (external). Each interview was conducted by two researchers, one person in charge of guiding the interview and another person in charge of recording and synthesizing the process as well as results of the interview into field notes. Each interview session lasted approximately 60-90 minutes on average, and it was frequently possible to conduct follow-up interviews. Detailed information on the data collection process can be found in Appendix 2.

The research team managed to interview a total of 18 informants during 16 interviews, consisting of 13 main interviews and 3 follow-up interviews, and conducted 4 group interviews and 12 individual interviews (see table 2 and 3 in Appendix 1 for more detailed information).

2.4 Data Analysis

Step 1: Consultation/FGD and interview

Data from consultations, FGDs, and interviews with youths were the main source for preparing the research findings. Information from the consultations and literature review was used to complement existing information and to triangulate data on youth engagement in climate and environmental from different perspectives.

This research used Dedoose software to process qualitative data. The research team managed the data centrally, and maintained supervision and oversight to ensure the quality of the data. Field notes accompanied all primary data collection results. Recordings of the discussions were transcribed, uploaded to Dedoose, and coded based on the research questions and the conceptual framework. Furthermore, the Constant Comparative Methods process was used to inductively analyze data.

Step 2: Case study

The case study applied a similar analytical process to stage 1 with minor modifications. The code book was developed by reference to themes that were identified in stage 1 and new themes that emerged in stage 2. Authors and field researchers coded the data obtained using an Excel matrix.

2.5 Research Ethics and Risk Mitigation

The process of qualitative data collection involved child (under-18) and adult (over-18) participants. The engagement of all participants in this research was carried out in accordance with guidelines on ethical research, and particularly those pertaining to the main principles of child participation. These include 1) Respect, 2) Non-maleficence and beneficence, 3) Fairness, 4) Prioritizing the best interests of the child, 5) Voluntariness, 6) Protecting the privacy of children and youths, 7) Upholding the right of children and youths to be heard and properly researched. This study has also received ethics approval from the Ethics Commission Board of Atmajaya University (approval letter number 0029D/III/LPPM-PM.10.05/09/2021 and 0005G/III/PPPE.PM.10.05/05/2022).

During data collection, the research team ensured that participants were aware that their personal data would only be used for the current study and would not be given to anyone other than the research team. To ensure data confidentiality, the research team stored the data of participants – including private information collected through forms and discussions – in a secure and encrypted database that could only be accessed by the research team or by facilitators and the financial administrative team. Participants were also informed about the process of research documentation prior to conducting the study, which was stated on the consent form and explained orally at the beginning of the study. In this report, the identity of research participants is anonymized to protect their privacy.

2.6 Study Limitations

Limitations of primary data collection

The limitations of this study are inherent to qualitative research in general, which is to say that the resulting conclusions cannot be separated from the specific situations that were observed, which means that this study does not necessarily represent Indonesia as a whole. For phase 1, this study has paid close attention to the diverse characteristics and backgrounds of its participants, but the interpretations of the information presented in this report as well as its broader conclusions need to be considered carefully due to the limited number of participants.

Meanwhile, data collection for the case study (Stage 2) involved two types of movements, which allowed for the collection of different levels of information in regard to type 1 and type 2 movements. Information on type 1 movements tends to be more detailed and in depth than that on type 2 movements. Consequently, there are several topics that were more thoroughly discussed when writing up the results on type 1 movements, but these topics are minimally or not at all discussed in the results on type 2 movements.

The data collection process was conducted online to minimize the potential spread of Covid-19. However, this method has limitations in terms of capturing nonverbal responses, and especially when interviews are conducted over the phone. As a result, researchers may not have been able to capture sentiments as thoroughly as they might have otherwise. In addition, this study may have excluded vulnerable groups with limited or no access to internet or telephone. However, phase 1 of this study has succeeded in including representatives from indigenous communities who are particularly affected by the climate crisis and the destruction of natural resources.

The phase 1 of this study largely succeeded in capturing the information that was shared by youths. Information from adults was obtained during one expert consultation and four KIIs with adult participants. In general, the youth and adult participants involved in this study were people working in communities or civil society organizations outside the government system. The time constraints of potential participants from government made it difficult to engage such representatives in a consultation. To nonetheless carry out in-depth discussions with some government participants, the team conducted several KIIs with government officials at the national and local levels, including representatives of officials from the Ministry and young civil servants.

The policy makers who participated in this study were all youths and adults from executive government bodies. The research team also reached out to youths in legislative government bodies to obtain a more balanced perspective, but, for one reason or another, was unable to conduct interviews with them.

During data collection in stage 2 (case study), the results of the findings were discussed with each organization/community to ensure the accuracy of the information as well as to obtain written consent. Although most of the inputs from participants did not change the substance of the findings, there were participants who asked that the findings about their organization be represented more carefully, especially concerning information that was considered quite sensitive. To this end, some information was added, trimmed, and modified according to these participants' requests.

Finally, some consider activism on climate and environmental issues in Indonesia to be potentially controversial. Therefore, in describing participants, the research team has used common 'identifiers' such as youth or adult, especially for phase 1 study. The institutional affiliation of participants was omitted from their accounts as well as from the findings section in order to protect their anonymity. Therefore, for the results of stage 2, only organizations and communities who gave their consent were listed, whereas the names of other organizations that were mentioned by participants were not described in detail.

Policy review limitations

The policy review was limited to searches for regulations at the national level (which were mentioned by stage 1 informants), predecessor regulations of these current regulations, and quick searches using Google's search engine. Therefore, technical regulations, local regulations, and regulations that are not available online may not have been included in this analysis.

The regulatory analysis was not followed up with confirmation from other sources, such as literature review, interviews with policy implementers, or news and media monitoring. As a result, this review is limited to what is stated in policy documents and therefore cannot be compared to the situation on the ground.



The Landscape of Youth Engagement in Indonesia

This study mapped the landscape of youth engagement in Indonesia in climate and environmental issues by identifying: 1) its various characteristics, 2) the climate and environmental topics important to youths, and 3) the forms of youth civic engagement in climate and environmental issues. Youths who are active in climate and environmental activism were identified based on their demographic and non-demographic characteristics.¹ These characteristics are often interrelated and can determine youths' commitment to engaging in civic action on climate and environmental issues. The multiple issues that youths consider important also cover a wide range of topics, which can be categorized into a) symptoms of climate and environmental crises, b) destructive consequences of climate and environmental crises, c) drivers of climate and environmental destruction, d) impact of the climate crises to the environment and its mitigation, and e) impact of the climate crises to individuals and its mitigation, especially for vulnerable populations. This study identified five forms of youth civic engagement, which are categorized, in no particular order, into i) capacity building, ii) advocacy, iii) campaigning (including protests), iv) research, and v) community assistance and social innovation. These forms of civic engagement generally target three main groups: communities, decision makers, and youths themselves.

¹ Demographic characteristics include information related to age, level of education or type of employment, gender, geographical area of origin, religion or other aspects of identity. Meanwhile, non-demographic characteristics include characteristics related to youths' understanding of climate and environmental issues, knowledge and skills, experience of being affected by climate and environmental issues, and resources and networks.

3.1 Characteristics of Youths who are Active in Climate and Environmental Issues

Box 1. Indonesia's Youth Demographics

Indonesian Law No. 40/2009 on Youth defines youths as Indonesian citizens who are in an important period of their development and growth, and are aged 16 (sixteen) to 30 (thirty). Under this definition, the youth age range includes the transition from education to employment, and the transition into social and political independence (Bappenas, 2020). In 2020, Indonesia's youth population was estimated to be approximately 64.50 million, or 23.86% of Indonesia's total population. In terms of age group, approximately 20.62% of youth are aged 16-18 years (who can therefore also be classified as children), 40.06% are between 19-24 years old, and 39.32% are 25-30 years old. By gender, the male youth population (50.78%) is not much larger than its female counterpart (49.22%). Indonesian youths are more likely to live in urban areas (57.83%) than in rural areas (42.17%). In addition, approximately 55.11% of youths are located in Java (Sari et al., 2022).

School Enrollment Rate data shows that in 2020, 0.71 percent of youths had never attended school, while 72.72 percent were no longer in school. The proportion of male and female youths that have never been enrolled in school tends to be the same. School enrollment is highest among the 16-18 age group (72.72%), followed by 19-24 (25.56%), and 25-30 (3.38%) (Sari et al., 2020).

Meanwhile, the labor force participation rate among youths has decreased from 61.96% in 2019 to 61.31% in 2020. The labor force participation rate of male youths (73.90%) is higher than that of female youths (48.46%). There is no significant difference in the labor force participation rate between youth populations in urban and rural areas. However, when viewed by age group, the labor force participation rate among youths in the 16-18 age group in rural areas is higher than that of youths in urban areas. In rural areas, the labor force participation rate among youths aged 16-18 years is 32.21%, while in urban areas it is only 24.67% (Sari et al., 2020).

In analyses of the landscape of youth development in Indonesia, the Youth Development Index (YDI) is commonly used as a national benchmark for guiding improvements in the youth development sector. In Indonesia, the Youth Development Index rose from 48.67 in 2015 to 51.50 in 2018. This indicates that progress in youth development has been made during this period. However, this score is still far from satisfactory because the maximum score in the index is 100, not to mention that Indonesia's score has been fluctuating over the years. Education is the best-achieving domain, with an increase in its score from 63.33 in 2015 to 66.67 in 2018. The health and wellbeing domain has also generally improved, but not consistently. Its domain index value increased from 55.00 in 2015 to 57.50 in 2016, but dropped in 2017 (55.00) before it rose again to 57.00 in 2018. Meanwhile, the employment and job opportunities domain was the lowest scoring domain, reaching a score of only 40.00 in 2018. The youth participation and leadership domain stagnated during the 2015-2018 period, thus remaining at 46.67. Similarly, the gender and discrimination domain remained at 46.67 throughout 2017 and 2018 (Bappenas, 2020).

The youth participation and leadership domain are structured on the basis of three indicators: youth participation in community social activities, youth participation in organizations, and youths' input and suggestions in public forums. Among the three indicators that make up the youth participation and leadership domain, participation in community social activities recorded the highest achievement with a score of 81.36 in 2018. Meanwhile, youth participation in organizations is still relatively low with a national score of only 6.36 in 2018. Similarly, since very few youths provided input and suggestions in public forums, this indicator achieved a score of only 6.72 in 2018 (Bappenas, 2020).

Findings from the Literature Review

Our literature review shows that youths over 18 years old are more frequently mentioned as engaging in activism than child-age youths. Focused studies on the issue of youth involvement in activism have highlighted the involvement of adolescents and youths in the age range of 18-30 years in activism in Indonesia (Alam et al., 2019; Azis et al., 2020; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Saud, et al., 2020). 2020; Warren et al., 2016).

However, other studies also mentioned the involvement of younger age groups. Kusumasari (2013) and Parker et al. (2018) studied civic engagement among youths aged 13-19 and youths of high school age. In addition, Nilan (2015) found that some female students started their activism as early as the age of 12.

According to the literature, youths with a higher education background, such as college students and graduates, are more involved in activism and interested in engaging with climate and environmental issues. Some studies have specifically focused on civic engagement among student groups (Nilan, 2020, 2018, 2017; Karliani et al., 2019; Tanu & Parker, 2018; Saud & Margono, 2021). According to a survey by Saud, et al. (2020), youths who are involved in activism are those who possess a higher education degree, and higher educational attainment is associated with stronger civic engagement. Parker et al. (2018) found that most students and college students self-identify as environmentalists.

Upper-middle economic status and living in urban areas also characterize many youths' involvement in climate and environmental movements. Alam et al. (2019) found that the main protest movement that is concerned with environmental issues was organized by educated upper-middle-class youths. Nilan (2017) mentioned that a number of climate and environmental activism movements are informed by youths' cultural and economic capital. Having cultural and economic capital encouraged them to become concerned with and involved in climate and environmental issues. In developing countries like Indonesia, children and youths from families with higher economic status are better able to participate in activities because participation in such activities also costs money (Nilan, 2017).

There are few studies on gender differences in youth movements concerned with climate and environmental issues, but some studies have investigated male leadership and *macho environmentalism*. Nilan (2015) observed the dominance of young male artists/musicians and activists in one of the environment-related communities that they studied. The dominance of young men in these movements is also apparent in the masculine appearance of their media channels, such as their website, blogs, and social media. This example is reminiscent of the concept of "*macho environmentalism*"² that emerged in the 1990s in Indonesia (Crosby, 2013). In another study, Parker et al. (2018) found that while many young women are active at the forefront of environmental movements, young men still predominantly lead environmental organizations.

Some studies discuss youths' engagement in relation to their association with or attraction to social identity. For example, Nilan (2017) studied young artists who self-identify as being concerned with environmental issues, which led them to organize in communities. In another study, Nilan (2018) found that environmental communities are a means for students to establish an identity with like-minded peers. Nilan (2020) also highlighted the existence of youths who emphasize their Islamic religious identity in the climate and environmental movement, such as, for example, Muslim students' associations who advocate for climate and environmental action while simultaneously structuring their activism around religion and science. Islamic students and scholars in 'pesantren' (Islamic boarding institution) have also initiated so-called green movements. Finally, Andini & Akhni (2021) discussed climate and environmental activism on social media by young K-Pop fans.

Beyond demographic characteristics, the literature also discussed several other characteristics that youths who are active in climate and environmental activism share with each other. In general, these are youths with a concern for, an awareness of, and a sense of responsibility for the environment, who have knowledge of the environmental movement, and who are skilled at using social media (Alam, 2016; Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015; Parker et al., 2018).

² Macho environmentalism in Nilan (2015) refers to the masculine appearance of male activists who are also musicians and artists, which can be seen in their clothes, tattoos, hairstyles as well as in their music and art.

Key Findings

Following the findings from the literature review, this study conducted discussions and interviews to map the demographic and non-demographic characteristics of youths engaged in climate and environmental activism.

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Youths who are involved in the climate and environmental movement are between 17 and 30 years old. It is worth noting that the term “young” might have different meanings in different communities. Some use the term to describe college students, young employees, or school children, which are groups that do not always fall precisely within the youth age range stipulated by the Youth Law. In addition, people under the age of 40 are still considered young in some places. There is also mention in some studies of the increasing participation of “young adolescents” in climate and environmental activism.

Education & Employment

The educational background of youths engaged in climate and environmental activism is quite diverse in terms of education level and scholarly discipline. This study observes that school and university students are dominant in the climate and environmental movement. However, factors that have a more significant influence on youth involvement in climate and environmental activism are their social opportunities, capacities, and skills, which may or may not be related to their educational background. Having capacities and skills can mean having more access to information, being actively involved in group activities, and being proficient in English.

In terms of occupation, youths involved in climate and environmental activism come from various professions. These include farmers, teachers, graphic designers, photographers, artists, musicians, journalists, as well as employees of environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs), corporate employees, and government employees. One of the youth activists observed that youths who are involved in climate and environmental activism are often those who work directly

on such issues or have the capacity to contribute to policy, such as government employees. This also explains why one’s affiliation with NGOs often comes up in discussions.

Socioeconomic Status and Geographic Location

In general, the study observes several differences among the youth population involved in climate and environmental movements, such as variations in terms of their geographic location, place of origin—whether hailing from urban or rural areas, or being categorized as “local” (daerah)³ — and economic status. Several youth participants noted the large number of upper-middle class urban youths in climate and environmental activism. These are generally well-educated, have good jobs, and are privileged in terms of access to socioeconomic opportunities. While youths from urban slums are also affected by climate and environmental issues, their engagement tends to be less pronounced. This is thought to be due to limited socioeconomic capacity, which causes climate and environmental activism to be low on their list of priorities.

Some youths argued that youth engagement in climate and environmental issues is currently still centered in Java and western Indonesia. Only a few communities claimed that they have managed to involve youths in various regions outside of Java. Similarly, some youths suspect that this phenomenon is influenced by gaps in terms of infrastructure and access, which is an issue that is more pronounced outside of Western Indonesia. Youths in Jakarta, in particular, have better access to government representatives.

However, some participants noted that despite the obstacles and limitations in terms of access, involvement by youths from Eastern Indonesia has begun to emerge, especially in climate and environmental issues that are occurring in their region. Participants in this study also observed that there are local and indigenous youths who are engaged in environmental activism. The involvement of such groups is mainly informed by various traditional beliefs. A young participant gave an example of collective action undertaken by indigenous youths to defend their territories from industrial exploitation, which is a form of activism that is driven by a philosophy that sees nature as inseparable from one’s body.

³ Distinct characteristics emerge when discussing regional social contexts. The label “local” refers to people hailing from outside of big cities or non-urban areas.

Land is seen as an embodiment of one's flesh, water as one's blood, and roots of vegetation as one's hair. Consequently, destruction of the land means the destruction of the body.

Gender

It remains inconclusive whether youths of one gender or another are more involved in climate and environmental activism, which is a finding that contrasts with studies in the literature that have emphasized the involvement of male youths. A number of study participants observed that recently there had been growing involvement by young women, including during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some suspect that the involvement of young women is because the impact of climate and environmental issues disproportionately affects women, but also because young women, including school-aged girls, have a greater interest in understanding and learning about these issues.

In addition, more and more female youths are working in public policy and ENGO sectors. However, leadership positions in these sectors remain male-dominated. Moreover, male youths are frequently involved in renewable energy communities and indigenous youth organizations, while some are also engaged in field activities. Some study participants also observed that women are more likely to play the role of planners or conceptualizers, while men are more likely to act as implementers.

Group Identity

FGDs and interviews revealed that the social identities of youths, including religion, beliefs, hobbies, and interests, are associated with their active involvement in climate and environmental movements. For example, Islamic students (santri), Catholic youths, and youth groups affiliated with other religions are actively involved in activism. In Padarincang, civic action in opposition to a geothermal project in that area was spearheaded by Islamic students and clerics from one of the Islamic boarding institutions. One of the youth experts argued that there is a link between Islamic values and environmental conservation, which has compelled young Islamic students to become involved in activism on this issue.

Having a particular identity, such as being an internet celebrity or being involved in music, literature, and pop culture fandom, also emerged as one of the characteristics of youths who are engaged in activism. During one of the interviews, a youth participant noted that the youth activists in their community often belong to the same musical or literary fandom. A common interest or taste appears to unite them in joining a social or environmental movement.

In addition, being part of an idol fandom was also mentioned in interviews. The BTS Army fandom, for instance, is known to be heavily involved in social and environmental activism. One participant, attributes the involvement of BTS fans in social and environmental activism to the history of hip-hop music, which emerged among black communities in the U.S. and has a tradition of speaking out about issues that affect these communities. According to this particular participant, BTS has extended this tradition by using hip-hop music to highlight social issues, which is something that appeals to their fans and thus drives their social and environmental activism.

Non-Demographic Characteristics

Awareness, Knowledge, and Skills

Some adult participants argued that youths who are involved in climate and environmental issues are those who have easy access to information, are skilled at using social media for their activism, and have extensive networks. Adult participants mentioned that the higher awareness is of these issues, the more likely it is that youths are involved in the movement. Adult participants working in government also mentioned that youths involved in climate and environmental activism are those who are capable of understanding the problems and consequences, and who are actively seeking solutions to climate change. However, some adult participants believe that youths are merely "curious" about the climate crisis and that they do not fully understand the complexity of climate issues.

The opinion that youths involved in climate and environmental issues are those who are knowledgeable and aware of such issues is also held by youth participants. According to them, youths who are engaged in such issues are highly aware, and this awareness is derived from their knowledge about these issues. However, some participants also mentioned that youths involved in climate and environmental issues sometimes do not have any background knowledge or experience in this sector.

Prior Experience of Being Affected

Some of the youth participants observed that peers who are active in the movement are those who have prior experience with being affected by climate and environmental issues, such as being affected by natural disasters. This is especially relevant to youths in regional areas, who have become involved after being directly affected by climate and environmental issues.

3.2 Climate and Environment Topics Important to Youths

Findings from the Literature Review

The climate and environmental symptoms that youths are concerned about include climate change and global warming.

Nilan (2017) interviewed 40 students at two public universities in Indonesia and found that worsening environmental conditions and the impact of global warming are the primary issues of concern among youths.

Youths pay attention to activities that cause climate and environmental crises.

Alam (2020) noted that youth activists are concerned about issues of deforestation and forest degradation. Deforestation is closely related to illegal logging and changes in the usage of forest lands that result in the loss of forest areas (Nilan, 2017) and the commercialization of urban forests (Alam, 2016), which are issues that are part of the focus of youth movements in several regions in Indonesia. In particular, Amri et al. (2021), found that youths in West Kalimantan and Riau considered forest destruction as one of the most important climate and environmental issues. In addition, waste is considered the most important issue by high school students in urban Surabaya and Yogyakarta (Parker et al, 2018) as well as youths in Gorontalo and Riau (Amri et al, 2021). Youths also relate to the issue of waste because it is something close to their personal experience (Nilan, 2017). Furthermore, Nilan (2020) found that Muslim youths' concerns about waste issues are informed by their religious teachings.

Youths are concerned about various factors that drive climate and environmental destruction, including government policies, industries, and capitalism, which are perceived as underlying the destruction of the environment in order to make a profit.

Nilan (2017) showed that environmental activists in Indonesia are concerned about developmental issues that are not properly managed, exploitation of natural resources, and the adverse impact of development policies and industrial activities on the environment and society. High demand for timber and other forest products has led to illegal logging as well as more land being cleared for mining or palm oil plantations (Nilan, 2017). Alam's study (2016) documented how youths perceive that capitalist incentives have led to the exploitation of forests in the interest of making profit.

Youths are also concerned about the impact of climate and environmental crises on the environment, including air pollution, water pollution and natural disasters.

Parker et al. (2018) found that 52% of students in their study identified pollution as the most important environmental issue at the national level. Alam (2020) found that concerns about urban air pollution are a key driver of environmental youth activism in Yogyakarta. In addition to air pollution, Nilan and Wibawanto (2015) discovered that a youth community has been involved in attempts to protect water springs from pollution. The issue of river pollution is also a concern among youths in Central Sulawesi and West Kalimantan (Yayasan Partisipasi Muda, 2021). Muslim environmentalists, furthermore, have argued that human actions are the cause of most disasters on the planet, which they consider an issue that is important to acknowledge and prevent (Nilan, 2020). Kurniawan et al. (2021) observed youth participation in flood disaster management, especially among youths from flood-prone areas. Youths also carry out activism that is geared toward environmental risk reduction and damage mitigation, such as land and marine biodiversity conservation, and community developments that seek to preserve natural habitats (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015; Nilan, 2017; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020).

Youths are gradually beginning to become aware of the impact of climate and environmental crises on people.

Alam (2019) found that youths who are environmental activists have started discussing social justice and humanitarian topics in Indonesia within their communities. However, it is unclear precisely to what extent these topics are considered important by them. Other studies have found that urban and agricultural development, which in turn leads to environmental degradation could threaten people's socioeconomic wellbeing (Alam, 2020) as well as public health due to environmental pollution, smoke from forest fires, and the contamination of food by polluted sea water (Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Nilan, 2018).

Key Findings

In line with the findings from literature review, below are the findings from the interviews and discussions about the five categories of climate and environmental issues that youths are concerned about.

Symptoms of Climate and Environmental Crises

Several youth participants mentioned the importance of addressing the climate crisis, rising sea levels, global warming as well as forest fires, land degradation, and coastal abrasion.

In line with the general views of youths, some adult participants believe that youths' attention to climate and environmental problems is only limited to specific issues. According to them, awareness of climate and environmental issues is still limited among urban youths, and these issues have not been widely discussed among youths in non-urban areas. The recent attention for climate and environmental crises is considered to be the result of exposure to global youth movements, such as the one was initiated by Greta Thunberg, and the emergence of related international organizations.

Destructive Actions

Inadequate household and industrial waste management is deemed an important issue by the majority of youth participants. The accumulation of waste is seen as having heavily contributed to environmental pollution both on land and at sea. The large amount of waste is also considered to have a major impact on the climate and environment, especially with the increase in waste during the pandemic. The topic of plastic waste is more frequently discussed than industrial waste. Youths tend to focus on issues that are close to them, and they often encounter plastic waste in their everyday life. While some youth participants considered plastic waste a significant contribution to environmental issues in Indonesia, adult participants argued that the contribution of plastic waste to climate change was very minor. In talking about industrial waste, youths mentioned the issue of water and air pollution by industries, which has been widely reported on in the media, and linked this issue to conflicts in local communities.

The study participants also discussed deforestation, land degradation, and land expansion for economic production. Non-urban youth populations and those living in affected areas

such as indigenous youths or those living in the forests of Kalimantan, Riau, Jambi and Papua – consider these three topics to be important issues. Deforestation is said to contribute to natural disasters, the loss of community living space, the loss of customary forest lands and water catchment areas, land degradation, and landslides as well as floods. Deforestation is also considered to be closely linked to the expansion of land that is used for palm oil plantations.

Factors that Drive Climate and Environmental Destruction

According to youth participants, policies that privilege accelerated development and industrialization, oligarchy, and corruption in the mining sector are part of a political and economic system that perpetuates acts of environmental destruction. The Omnibus Law (Law No 11/2020 on Job Creation) and the Amendment to the Coal and Mining Law (Law No 3/2020 on the Amendment to Law No 4/2009 on Mining and Coal), for example, are considered by youth participants as national policies that contribute to environmental exploitation. 'The New Bali' policy is another example of a policy that exacerbates land grabs and natural destruction due to the increase in waste from tourism. A youth participant noted that the government's prioritization of renewable energy and its focus on nickel mining could also result in deforestation and environmental pollution. Another youth participant also mentioned that Indonesia still relies on a 'brown economy', which makes the country's economic system still very dependent on fossil fuel.

Furthermore, industrial activities are linked to the lives of communities and individuals, and are seen as contributing to climate and environmental crises. First, while there is an industrial demand for products that are derived from natural resources, such industries provide only a limited source of income for local communities. A youth participant noted that people in their area excavate sand to sell as a building material, and this has contributed to coastal erosion. The fact remains that these people need to sell sand to survive. However, the public then blames the community for environmental destruction without providing it with alternative sources of livelihood. Second, industrial outputs and products influence people's lifestyles, thus perpetuating economic models that rely on consumerism, as can be seen in the case of fast fashion.

Other youth participants felt that there tends to be a disproportionate emphasis on individual (vis-à-vis industrial) contributions to environmental destruction. The actions of consumers are frequently blamed as exacerbating climate and environmental crises, when in fact, according to some youth participants, large corporations make a more significant contribution to such crises.

Impacts on the Climate and Environmental Conditions and their Mitigation

Youths' concerns arise due to the increasingly visible and direct impact of climate and environmental crises, such as the loss of forest areas, natural disasters, environmental pollution, and sinking lands. Natural disasters that were widely reported on by the media have raised awareness about the impact of climate and environmental crises. Youth participants from West Java and Kalimantan said that disasters, and especially floods, are a widely discussed topic in their communities mainly because they frequently see and experience such disasters in their areas.

Issues of air pollution, water pollution, and the loss of rice varieties as a result of environmental destruction also came up during discussions with youths. Pollution is mostly seen as a result of poor household waste management, industrial waste, poor transportation systems, and the poor quality of air, water, and soil is deemed to be due to physical development, which all directly affect the community. Meanwhile, some youths believe that various rice varieties are being lost as a consequence of the conversion of agricultural land for mining.

Youth participants are also concerned with the mitigation and risk reduction of climate and environmental issues. Topics related to sustainable lifestyles and the circular economy are part of urban youths' area of interest. They consider these initiatives as a way to reduce plastic waste, but also as an effort to improve community livelihood through the sale of sustainable products. Increasing awareness about the circular economy is also influenced by the emergence of youth entrepreneurship and the growth of startups. Although many see sustainable consumption and the circular economy as an effective means to raise public awareness about environmental issues, a youth participant noted that there might be a risk that sustainable products could only be accessed by the urban middle class.

Climate crisis mitigation efforts, including mangrove restoration and renewable energy use, have begun to be advocated by several youth communities in certain regions.

Mangrove restoration is considered important for preventing ecological disasters, while renewable energy involves behavioral changes in the consumption of energy as well as switching to green (non-fossil fuel) sources of energy. Even though energy is an important issue, as it is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Indonesia, it has not been the focus of youth movements. Youth participants pointed out that discussions around energy tend to be limited to activists and NGOs. Furthermore, they believe that these discussions should also be expanded to cover issues of energy sustainability and equity.

Impacts on People and their Mitigation

Vulnerable populations and underprivileged communities are most affected by environmental destruction. Industrial and mining exploitation as well as its impact on people's lives is considered by youths to be an important issue in some areas, especially in relation to land grabs and conflicts, forced migration, loss of livelihoods and cultural identity, and the emergence of health issues due to air and groundwater pollution. Youths also observed that the loss of agricultural land and forests has had an impact on the food crisis, especially for communities whose food sources are derived directly from nature. For example, the food crisis that occurred in Papua was a result of the conversion of forest land for palm oil and paper plantations.

Global movements, including those in climate justice, have led to an awareness about the need to integrate inclusive approaches in the climate and environmental movement. The issue of indigenous peoples, in particular, is considered important because they are among the most vulnerable populations who are affected by climate and environmental issues. Youths believe that the seizure of indigenous lands and territories will result in the loss of valuable indigenous knowledge. Indigenous communities can be disadvantaged because their lives depend on natural resources, and they are the very people who protect forests and rivers. As a result of land grabs, indigenous youths may lose their sacred sites and forget their ritual practices. However, the traditional practice of land burning that is carried out by some indigenous communities to clear new land for farming is also considered a cause of environmental destruction. Although regulations are in place to curb land clearing through burning, these have not been communicated well to indigenous communities. Youths are also paying attention to gender equality in climate and environmental issues, especially because women as well as other vulnerable populations, such as persons with disabilities, are the ones who are most severely affected by the climate crisis yet often excluded from the decision-making process.

Box 2. Other social issues that are important to youths

This study found several issues that are important to youths, some of which are also related to the climate and environment.

Political Participation, Democracy, and Corruption

Some studies discuss youth civic engagement in issues concerning political participation and democracy (Kusumasari, 2013; Saud, et al. 2020; Andini and Akhni, 2021; Hasan, 2012), corruption (Baharuddin, 2021), as well as tolerance and discrimination (Meyers, 2017; Ridwan & Wu, 2018). The issue of political participation and democracy is important because youths, as citizens, need to have a voice in policy making. Meanwhile, the issue of corruption is a concern because it affects the social, economic, and political lives of youths. Youth participants discussed their involvement in Reformasi Dikorupsi⁴, a protest movement against the systematic weakening of the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), which youths believe risks perpetuating the illegal practices of extractive industries that are widely associated with corruption in mining licenses, palm oil concessions, and other cases related to climate and environmental degradation.

Tolerance, Non-Discrimination, and Gender Equality

Meyers (2017) observed the exclusion of youths with disabilities from civic engagement activities, while Ridwan & Wu (2018) discussed the importance of issues faced by youths from sexual and gender minorities who face discrimination and violence in Indonesia. Youth participants also expressed their concern for certain sensitive social issues, which the state has generally been reluctant to address, such as the 1965 massacre, gender minorities, religious diversity, and indigenous beliefs. Tolerance and gender equality are also part of the issues that K-pop fanbases seek to address. These fanbases are also actively involved in the Black Lives Movement and Women's March Indonesia.

Youth Entrepreneurship and Empowerment

Youth entrepreneurship and empowerment in the economic sector emerged as topics during discussions on youth engagement. According to expert participants, entrepreneurship is often linked to the various narratives promoted by governments and development organizations that encourage youths to take up entrepreneurial initiatives.

Reproductive Health

Some youths also mentioned Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) as an important issue because of the stigma and "taboos" that this issue involves as well as the detrimental effects that many youths suffer as a result.

⁴ Reformasi Dikorupsi is a movement to oppose Law No. 19/2019 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 30/2002 on the Corruption Eradication Commission.

3.3 Forms of Youth Civic Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

Findings from the Literature Review

Many studies highlight forms of youth activism that aim at increasing the capacity and awareness of youths themselves.

This includes activities such as campaigning for appropriate plastic waste management, sustainable lifestyles, and the protection of wildlife ecosystems. In addition to such campaigns, awareness-raising efforts are also conducted through workshops, trainings, and seminars on topics such as training in forest conservation (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015). Activities, such as debate competitions on climate and environmental issues, are also carried out through schools and universities. Youths are also involved in student organizations and nature appreciation clubs (Crosby 2013; Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015).

In addition to youth-initiated awareness and capacity building activities, adult-initiated activities are also observed.

Capacity building activities, such as workshops, seminars, and forums involving youths, are carried out by government agencies and environmental NGOs. Some training activities aim to increase youths' awareness about and capacity for mitigating the impacts of climate change, for example, by offering training on disaster preparedness (Kurniawan et al, 2021), while other activities engage youths in planning and in carrying out activism toward climate and environmental issues in nonviolent ways (Alam, 2019). Other activities under this category include coordination meetings, FGDs, and public consultations or debates involving youths (Bassar et al., 2018).

Community empowerment and community assistance activities are also available, such as initiatives for processing and selling plastic waste products or developing and promoting do-it-yourself (DIY) products.

Another example is recycling non-degradable waste that can be sold online (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015). In addition, young K-Pop fans and other environmentally concerned youth communities collect donations to plant mangrove trees for environmental conservation (Andini & Akhni, 2021). Other activities include collecting trash ("cleanups") in forest areas, preserving certain animal species, camping, mountain climbing, rafting, and other activities that can help to prevent forest destruction (Nilan, 2018).

Social campaigns or initiatives to encourage policy or behavior change are also observed as a form of youth engagement.

Youths also engage in climate and environmental activism by campaigning on social media, organizing street campaigns, or a combination of both. As active social media users, youths discuss climate and environmental issues online, including on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and WhatsApp (Alam, 2016; Andini and Akhni 2021; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015; Saud & Margono, 2021; Sugihartati, 2020; Warren et al., 2016; Yue et al, 2019).

However, our literature review discovered little evidence of policy advocacy by youths.

A few of our findings indicate the existence of a few policy advocacy activities that are carried out by youths through petitions, particularly on topics such as urban forest conversion and animal protection policies (Alam, 2020; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020). Beyond that, our review discovered a youth-initiated protest that involved a theatrical street performance and the display of slogans, artworks, and other creative activities and objects (Alam 2016; Alam 2019).

The same lack of evidence applies to research activities. Only three studies were found discussing youth-led research.

These include research on the impact of the mining industry (Alam 2019), biodiversity (Nilan, 2015), and opportunities for youths to conduct collaborative research on environmental issues (Warren et al, 2010).

Key Findings

In line with our findings from the literature review, below are our findings from the interviews and discussions on the five identified forms of youth civic engagement in climate and environmental issues.

Capacity building to develop knowledge and skills

Multiple sub-areas of capacity building have been identified, namely climate and environmental literacy, advocacy, and networking.

Capacity Building in Climate and Environmental Literacy

Training and capacity-building activities targeting youths involve quite diverse demographic groups and are packaged depending on the target group. Some programs target elementary school children, and programs for younger age groups typically involve creative approaches, such as telling stories or playing games. Meanwhile, programs that target the broader community generally involve vulnerable or affected communities, such as indigenous peoples and coastal communities.

Training and capacity-building activities address various climate literacy topics and focus on skills related to mitigating the impact of climate and environmental crises. Capacity-building activities cover topics relevant to the impacts of the climate crisis and natural disasters as well as mitigation, sustainable lifestyles, green jobs, renewable energy, and food security. Other activities include practical skill development, such as training in waste management and organic gardening. One organization focusing on urban youths, for example, offers a short course for understanding environmental issues from various perspectives. The course addresses topics such as, among other things, political economy, agrarian systems, power relations and gender, and structural poverty. The course is conducted over several days with face-to-face class sessions and field exercises. Another example is a youth organization that focuses on agriculture through a program called Turba Santrium, which combines religious education with agricultural activities. This program is open to youths of all faiths. In this program, youths learn about farming and gardening by involving the community in their activities.

In addition to training activities, there are also public discussions and seminars that focus on information and knowledge sharing. These mostly discuss climate change, green lifestyles, and green jobs.

Capacity Building in Advocacy and Networking

In addition to improving climate and environmental literacy, some capacity-building activities also aim to develop technical or how-to skills. This study identifies several organizations that focus on training youths to increase their capacity in the field of public policy. In this case, youth forums or communities are established to share information and increase youths' capacity for participating in policymaking processes.

Some youth organizations also provide a networking platform for youths to interact with each other. Several tools and facilities have been developed specifically for urban and rural youths to interact with, learn from, and discuss among each other. A participant from one of the youth organizations talked about Kaum Muda Tanah Air (KATA), which is a youth forum that is spread across the country that provides instruction on public policies and that actively participates in policymaking. One of the activities organized by this forum is a youth congress, which was set to take place in 2021. This forum is expected to deliver position papers that are published regularly to evaluate government policies on climate and the environment.

Policy advocacy to create, amend, or revoke environmental and climate-related policies

This form of engagement is generally carried out through dialogues with policymakers in government and parliament, either through formal channels (e.g., hearings) or non-formal channels. Targeted policies can be at the national, regional, or village level. Some examples of issues that have been targeted through youth advocacy include palm oil moratorium policies, environmental impact regulations for the business sector, coastal area restoration policies, and village greening budgets. Other topics include renewable energy, tax cuts for "green" entrepreneurs, and sustainable city policies.

There are also advocacy activities that seek to protect the rights of indigenous peoples, such as customary land clearance permits and the welfare of indigenous peoples.

Youths carry out advocacy efforts that are aimed at various stakeholders by establishing forums for communication and collaboration between government agencies, academics, communities, and the private sector. This information was provided by several youth participants who are members of Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari (LTKL), an initiative to build a multi-stakeholder dialog forum at district level.

Some youths carry out advocacy efforts by submitting written briefs (e.g., position papers), proposing ideas via email to policy makers, filling out online petitions, and expressing opinions on social media.

Campaigns that aim to change opinions and behavior

Social campaigns

Youths take action on climate and environmental issues and communicate their message through social media, including Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok, or through podcasts and radio channels. The messages of these campaigns are dominated by two topics, namely climate crisis mitigation (such as the importance of environmental conservation efforts and encouraging local food production) and sustainable lifestyles (such as reducing the usage of plastic bags and minimizing consumption). A number of participants discussed several social campaigns that were aimed at promoting youth initiatives, including Teens Go Green (by urban youths) and the Pulang Kampung Movement (by indigenous youths). In addition, youths have conducted public campaigns on ongoing environment-related conflicts, such as for example, the conflicts in Wadas and Kinipan.

Youths also conduct campaigns during creative events, such as festivals, concerts, photo exhibitions, or movie screenings. One participant shared their experience in organizing concerts and festivals to encourage public awareness on the dangers of coal mining. Some youth participants organized a screening of 'Diam dan Dengarkan', which is a documentary about environmental issues.

Protests

Protests are generally carried out in the form of demonstrations, speeches, peaceful/non-violent actions, or petitions.

One protest that was frequently mentioned is the demonstration against the Omnibus Law (Law No 11/2020 on Job Creation) and the KPK Law (Law No 19/2019 on the Second Amendment to Law No 30/2002 on the Corruption Eradication Commission). In addition, there have also been actions to demand the closure of paper and pulp factories as well as direct actions to prevent the construction of Steam Power Plants (PLTUs), which are considered to have harmed both the environment and the local community. Youth participants from Papua mentioned a local youth action that collected signatures for a petition to reject corporate presence in indigenous territories. Other examples of youth-led protests are demonstrations to reject the local government's policy on the exportation of plastic waste and the sending of petitions to e-commerce companies urging them to improve their plastic waste management policies. Youths have also staged protests to defend indigenous rights, such as in the Kinipan case⁵, and participated in a school strike in front of the ministry's office building to demand customary forest rights and the welfare of indigenous people.

On the topic of protests, participants asserted that youths tend to opt for a non-violent or peaceful approach. During climate strikes, for instance, youths would march along designated locations while carrying posters or sit in the middle of the streets. During long marches, youths would block roads and make noise using household appliances, or perform dances and cultural rituals, such as rites to ward off bad luck. However, one of the youth participants argued that nonviolent actions can be difficult to carry out in Indonesia, given the nation's history of violent protests and resistance movements. Furthermore, this participant added that this difficulty is due to the state's repression of civil society, which lasted more than 30 years during the New Order regime.

⁵ In Kinipan, a village in Lamandau District, Central Kalimantan, local residents protested against land clearing activities by a company for a palm oil plantation, because they believed this plantation would threaten the local forest as well as the livelihood of the Laman Kinipan indigenous people.

Research that aims to gain a scientific understanding of climate and environmental issues

This study suggests that youth involvement in research remains limited. Some of the research identified by this study was aimed at understanding youth perceptions on climate and environmental issues. Several young researchers have conducted research for policy advocacy purposes, for example, by analyzing the palm oil moratorium policy. In another instance, school students collected and submitted rainfall data to the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). One youth participant, who is a community facilitator, mentioned that they had collected data on the loss of local rice varieties. Other studies conducted by youths are in the form of theses or final papers, which are submitted as part of their graduation requirements. One participant mentioned that many students in Kalimantan and Sumatra conducted research on forest fires for their final thesis.

Community assistance programs and social innovation activities that aim to assist a community or group in implementing strategies to mitigate environmental and climate-related problems.

This study identifies several community assistance programs that combine social innovation with economic empowerment. For example, a youth-initiated social enterprise assists waste pickers in the collection of plastic waste and helps them sell this to companies. A portion of the profits is distributed among the waste pickers. Moreover, LTKL runs a sustainable economy program that encourages the community to make sustainable products. Indigenous youth communities are helped with replanting former palm oil plantations with trees, and other youth activities are organized to promote innovations in endemic species conservation. Youth participants also mentioned, among other things, a waste bank program and tree planting initiatives, particularly of mangrove trees, as further examples of environmental conservation efforts. In another instance, young civil servants successfully transformed a local village-based waste bank program into a Village-Owned Enterprise (Bumdes).

Another form of community assistance is the integration of various social innovations to improve resource sustainability.

For example, a community of young Papuans assists housewives in their local village to make sago starch, which is their food staple. Several youth groups have also initiated collective gardens and assisted local communities in organic gardening or farming activities. There are also youths who work on energy issues by installing solar panels in various regions, including indigenous territories. In addition, youths also encourage the growth of green startups through startup incubation programs whose main activity is to provide training and capacity building to their participants.

Case assistance during the litigation process as well as case advocacy are also identified in this study.

A youth organization assisted an island community in the creation of a map of the community's territory, which was then submitted to the local government in response to a proposed plan for an extractive policy in their area. Other youth groups accompanied affected communities in Batang to protest the construction of a power plant in their area, and these groups also assisted indigenous people in mapping their territories and dealing with land grabbing cases.



Pathways for Youth Engagement and Participation in Climate and Environmental Issues in Indonesia

This study investigated three pathways for youth engagement and participation: 1) youth participation through youth-initiated organizations, communities or movements, 2) youth participation through civil society organizations (CSOs) and ENGOs, and 3) youth participation through government or private institutions. Of the three pathways, the number of avenues for youth-initiated participation is increasing, but a relatively high level of youth participation is also found in pathways provided by CSOs or ENGOs. Youth participation in climate and environmental issues was also observed in civic actions facilitated by the government, but these forms of engagement tend not to be sustained because they are mainly organized for short, specific purposes (ad hoc) or for one-off activities.

4.1 Youth Engagement Through Youth Initiatives

Findings from the Literature Review

Youth engagement is no longer limited to formal educational institutions. In climate and environmental issues, there has been more engagement through youth-initiated community channels that are set up outside of educational institutions because campus-based student movements have declined (Weiss et al., 2014). Activism on environmental issues on campuses is generally considered to be limited only to nature-related extracurriculars (Crosby 2013; Nilan & Wibawanto 2015), while more diverse platforms for the environmental community have emerged outside of campuses.

Higher participation of youths in the community is reinforced by increased care and group solidarity. Nilan (2017) claims that the trend toward youth awareness of and care for climate and environmental issues will only increase in the future. Saud and Margono (2021) observe that youths are increasingly interested in participating in social and political organizations for collective action. In addition, group solidarity that is rooted in a collective youth identity also strengthens youth activism on climate and environmental issues. For example, Andini and Akhni (2021) note the solidarity among young K-Pop fans on the necessity of engaging in climate and environmental activism. The perception that such fans are a stigmatized group of toxic and emotional

teenagers actually strengthens their group solidarity and contributes to their determination to engage in climate and environmental issues in Indonesia (in addition to other issues). Youth civic engagement in Indonesia is also increasingly visible because of the presence of social media (Gaby, 2017; Saud, et al., 2020).

While social media opens many opportunities for engagement, a number of studies also note that social media activism alone is not enough for enacting political transformation and that face-to-face interaction remains necessary for civic action. Social media provides opportunities for youths to interact and connect with each other and to engage in climate and environmental activism (Andini & Akhni, 2021; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Saud & Margono 2021). Meanwhile, youths who have direct experience with activism argue that activism through social media can also erode the boundaries of power relations, space, and time (Alam, 2016). However, Alam (2016) also argues that connecting offline can build emotional attachments among youths, between youths and members of the public, and between youths who are fighting against climate and environmental issues.

Key Findings

This study finds that most youths engage in climate and environmental activism through youth-initiated organizations, communities, or movements. Several participants mentioned that their particular climate and environmental movement consisted of groups of university and school students who share the same goals and concerns in terms of the climate and environment. One adult participant noted that a change has taken place in youth interest in climate and environmental activism. Previously, apart from campus-based activism, youths were heavily involved in movements initiated by NGOs and the government. Whereas today, youths prefer creating and

interacting in smaller communities with more flexible activities and forms of governance. Several expert participants noted that youth activism today is becoming increasingly diverse and tending to avoid dependence on large NGOs or adult-initiated organizations.

Most youth participants mentioned friendship and being influenced by friends as the main reasons they joined and stayed in the organization or community in which they are currently involved.

This includes getting information from friends about a certain community, being invited by close friends, participating in public events, and feeling connected to the organization or community because they share the same goal regarding the climate and the environment.

Youth participants also mentioned several factors that they perceived as advantages of youth engagement in youth communities:

Solidarity, collaboration opportunities and social networks

Youth participants described solidarity and collaboration as a joint effort to expand the beneficiaries of climate and environmental activities, the membership of youth groups, and the types of initiatives organized by climate and environmental movements. Efforts were also made to network, form and strengthen coalitions as well as to support each other's initiatives, advocacies work, funding, and public mobilization. Some efforts were also made to strengthen the capacity of fellow young activists to communicate in public and with local communities through both online and offline means.

Safe space for diversity

Safe spaces facilitate a feeling of connection and the sharing of values and respect for the different opinions and characteristics of members of youth movements. Young participants in general practiced inclusivity, which meant they did not exclude other youths with different views. For instance, one participant mentioned that differences in opinion in terms of siding with versus opposing the government were considered normal and not a problem in the community. Youths also used social networks and media to engage with other youths with more diverse social characteristics.

Role equality

In youth communities, the absence of hierarchy allows for a more flexible division of labor, which is divided based on one's ability and availability. In communities of young K-Pop fans, for instance, the dynamics of interaction between members are very fluid and age-neutral. Some youth participants also noted that in various youth-initiated communities and organizations, every member, regardless of age, has equal opportunity to assume certain organizational roles, including strategic positions such as that of program manager.

Equality of roles also means a more flexible organizational governance. In one organization, for instance, the position of director was given to someone who was young in order to introduce fresh and creative ideas to the organization.

Voluntarism and freedom

Many participants noted that participation in their communities or organizations tends to be voluntary and not schedule-bound. Voluntarism also means that members' participation varies depending on their availability, ability, personal situation, and needs. In addition, participants value the freedom of speech, which is a foundational principle for safe spaces.

However, youth participants also mentioned the following challenges:

Access inequality

It is important to note that, in conversations about climate and the environment in the public sphere, urban youths are often perceived as dominating social movements and voices in the media, including on issues by which they are not directly affected. However, the wish to expand networks beyond urban areas is challenged by issues of access, even if online media can bridge time and space and reach rural areas better than before. Despite the desire to involve local youths, there is often a gap in terms of access to communication media and an unequal understanding of climate and environmental issues.

An organization's unequal access to resources, such as connections with certain stakeholders, was also mentioned in conversations. One young participant described this phenomenon as a form of gatekeeping in which relationships with stakeholders and resources are only accessible to a handful of particular youths and not others.

Gender dynamics

The division of roles and responsibilities between female and male members varies in each community or organization. Some participants did not mention any specific dynamics between men and women. Others expressed that women tend to dominate conversations in the community or organization. Others mentioned that even though female youths are fewer in number they tend to participate more actively in meetings that are set up by their organizations. In one FGD, a participant mentioned that although there is no official gendered division of labor, according to him at least, in practice the division of labor is sometimes still informed by gender.

That is to say, most women take on the role of planners and organizers whereas most men take on the role of implementers. However, other participants responded that this is something that the organization needs to address and resolve internally as a form of auto-criticism.

Managing differences

Some young participants talked specifically about differences among youths in climate and environmental activism that are related to their socioeconomic background. For instance, highly educated youths from the upper-middle class are more capable when it comes to networking and strengthening the movement compared to youths in areas with lower levels of education and fewer resources. Youth participants did not consider the fact that elite groups tend to be the initiators of social movements as a problem as long as they had a positive impact.

Although age is generally not an aspect that affects group dynamics, the role of more senior members is still influential. According to one participant, senior members can help communicate community activities to a wider audience or connect them to other activities. However, senior members can also be a hindrance as they might have views that differ from the views of youths. Another participant responded to this by saying that there are still members in his organization who feel reluctant to engage with senior members. When it comes to differences of opinion, some youth participants noted that these often arise during decision-making processes due to differences in communication styles as well as perspectives on various issues.

Managing competition

Competition or rivalry between youths does occur within youth communities, but this can be perceived as being relatively healthy. Some participants mentioned that conflict, competition, and rivalry occur within and across any community. For instance, there is competition between organizations in awareness campaigns, competition in finding funding from donors, and there are internal debates regarding organizational approaches and governance. This was seen by one participant as a factor that makes it difficult for youth movements to achieve progress together, whereas according to another participant, competition between organizations was not a significant obstacle because activism also requires collaboration with other organizations.

Youth participants also mentioned there is competition among individuals or organizations in terms of claiming the most credit for their specific actions in terms of climate and environmental activism. Competition can also lead to conflict when a certain individual claims collective work as their own, or when a certain organization claims the achievements of another organization. Competition can also be an issue in the struggle over access to resources, such as when pursuing funding opportunities.

4.2 Youth Engagement Through CSOs and ENGOS

Findings from the Literature Review

Some publications have noted that most youth movements for climate and environmental action are affiliated with CSOs and ENGOS. Some publications have found that student participation in climate and environmental movements is linked to their affiliation or cooperation with ENGOS (Alam, 2019; Tanu & Parker, 2018; Nilan, 2015). In another publication, Nilan (2015) notes that youths affiliated with ENGOS have more opportunities to initiate pro-environmental movements. In addition to ENGOS, Bassar et al. (2018) observe that non-environmental organizations involve youths in order to better manage and reduce the risks of climate change, especially in disaster situations. In addition, Alam (2016) found a rise in civil society support for youth-led climate and environmental action, such as the support given to community leaders and the general public in protesting the developments initiated by companies that have the potential to damage the environment in West Java. Despite the considerable role of ENGOS, Alam (2019) found that youths prefer engaging with smaller communities in their interactions because they know that there are many areas of activism in local regions that cannot be covered by ENGO programs, and also because adults dominate decision-making within ENGOS.

The literature review found that support for capacity strengthening and information sharing was a prominent part of the pattern of interactions between youths and CSOs & ENGOS. Alam (2019) found that support for youth activism is provided by ENGOS mainly through training and capacity building. Nilan and Wibawanto (2015) cite the example of basic action training for developing non-violent direct-action skills that is provided to youths by ENGOS. Reeuwijk (2018) mentions that ENGOS also facilitate dialogues about values between young and adult staff, provide opportunities for youth representation in decision making, and strengthen the capacity of youths as researchers, advocates, peer educators, service providers, community mobilizers, and workers on climate and environmental issues.

Recruitment and regeneration are also part of the pattern of direct and indirect interactions between youths and CSOs and ENGOS. Nilan (2017) found that involving students in climate and environmental activism is also a way to engage youth activists. In general, the participation of Indonesian students in climate and environmental activism is often informed by the agenda of ENGOS, albeit on a smaller scale and generally for issues that are deemed more important by youths, such as campaigns for waste reduction (Nilan and Wibawanto 2015), threats to urban forests (Alam 2016), or support for the WWF's global "Earth Hour" campaign (Bassar et al. 2017). Alam (2019) found that the youths involved in actions to save urban forests in West Java were experienced activists from one particular ENGO. Although this ENGO was not institutionally involved in the campaign, the youths acknowledged that their campaign design was adopted from the one employed by this ENGO. These youths also employed a more egalitarian organizational structure and decision-making process.

Key Findings

While youth-initiated pathways for community engagement have become increasingly attractive to youths, this study finds a dominant pattern of interactions in climate and environmental activism between youths, civil society, and ENGOs. Most of the study participants who are active in the climate and environmental movement are part of civil society groups and ENGOs. An adult expert also observed that the youth movement cannot be separated from the role of ENGOs as these present one of the main pathways for youths to become involved in the issue and carry out further independent initiatives, either as workers of organizations/ENGOs, as climate and environmental activists in the community, or as observers of climate and environmental issues. ENGOs and other civil society organizations are also seen as providing a platform for youth participation by organizing various initiatives or programs that involve youths, including many that reach out to vulnerable youths (such as women and people with disabilities) to discuss climate and environmental issues.

In addition to individual youths, some youth organizations or communities also have affiliations or connections with global organizations/ENGOs outside Indonesia, whether in the form of programs or funding. Such global affiliations, according to young participants, do not affect the implementation of activities that are carried out in the Indonesian context. The issues and types of activities that are undertaken are entirely dependent on the needs of the local context. Although there are no specific guidelines from global affiliates regarding organizational activities or governance, there are basic values that youths need to adopt in their initiatives. These values include non-violent action, non-discrimination, and not joining a political party.

Participants in this study perceived youths as having more positive experiences when engaging in the activities or programs organized by civil society groups and ENGOs. Patterns and objectives of youth engagement in activities or programs of civil society organizations and ENGOs include:

- CSOs/ENGOs strengthen the capacity of youths to engage in climate and environmental issues and improve their advocacy, organizational, and networking skills.
- CSOs/ENGOs provide financial support for youth activities and implement or make youth activities part of their programs. Specifically in terms of the funding provided, youths in this study had two views. First, funding from donor organizations is perceived as a form of trust in the importance of youth-initiated activities, and this funding tends to be unconditional. However, other youth participants specifically expressed a concern about funders' demands and how these might end up limiting their activities. From this perspective, funding support is perceived as having a specific agenda that demands further examination.
- CSOs/ENGOs initiate the formation of youth-led movements or invite youths to be part of climate and environmental communities or activities.
- CSOs/ENGOs ask youths to be advisors to their organizations, including the provision of input on organizational programs and governance.
- CSOs/ENGOs work in partnership with youths on a climate and environmental initiative.

In addition to NGOs, youths can also be involved in climate and environmental issues through the media, universities, research institutions, religious institutions, art communities, and online influencers. Political parties can also play a similar role. Most youths are involved as participants, target beneficiaries of the activities they organize, or as organizing partners.

Besides being engaged by CSOs/NGOs, youths also engage CSO/NGOs in various ways, including:

- Youths invite experts from CSOs/NGOs to participate in their activities.
- Youths invite adults from CSOs/NGOs in advocacy activities aimed at the Government.
- Youths consult with and learn from CSOs/NGOs about climate and environmental issues or about advocacy and organizing strategies.

- Youths request data or information from CSOs/NGOs.

In addition to involving CSOs/NGOs, a number of youths have also been actively involved the media – although this activity has not been evenly distributed – because coverage and reporting are seen as useful for raising public awareness.

4.3 Youth Engagement Through Government and Private Sector

Findings from the Literature Review

The government's interest in encouraging youth involvement in climate and environmental issues could be related to the emergent discourse on the benefits of the demographic bonus. The increasing number of youths in Indonesia's total population has led to increased youth engagement. Argo et al. (2016) mentions that it is projected that, by 2030, the number of young people aged 15-29 will be around 70 million of the total population of Indonesia. Peace et al. in Nilan & Wibawanto (2015) note that climate and environmental issues are very closely related to future developments, which underscores that youth have a right to determine their future fate. Furthermore, Argo et al. (2016) mention that this has encouraged the government, especially since 2015, to engage youths in development forums and interactive dialogues (Bassar et al, 2018).

The government's role in supporting action on climate and environmental issues is mainly done by encouraging educational institutions to be actively involved. Bassar et al. (2018) note that the government encourages youth engagement on climate and environmental issues in schools and universities. Examples of government involvement that are carried out by the ministries of Environment and Forestry, Youth and Sport Affairs, Education and Culture, and the national agency for meteorology, are the

organization of debates as well as art and journalism competitions on the theme of environmental issues, Adiwiyata school competitions, and student field trips to nature conservation areas. Pro-environment activities in educational institutions are seen as capable of shaping youths' civic identity as part of a broader community group and as helping them to enact a sense of community in daily life with their family, community, fellow volunteers, and members or leaders of organizations, and as preparing them to act, in the future, as professionals, politicians, civil servants, and business owners (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015).

Not much evidence of private sector involvement in supporting climate and environmental issues was found. The few examples of private sector involvement that were found in the literature indicate that extractive companies participate in sponsoring events and scholarships to schools and students. Bassar et al. (2018) mentioned that this involvement is mostly related to the business sector in which these companies operate. Bassar et al. (2018) also mentioned further examples of private sector involvement, such as extracurricular activities, renewable energy utilization on a small scale in schools, waste management in the school area, tree planting, and supporting environmentally friendly transportation to schools and universities.

Key Findings

This study finds that youths working in Government agencies are also aware of and involved in climate and environmental movements in Indonesia. Some participants, consisting of young and adult civil servants at the central government level, said that youths are currently considered as providing positive input to policymaking at the national level. Youths have flexible roles and capacities, not only as a group that is capable of influencing policies from outside the system, but also as a group within the system because of the various positions held by young professionals working in government institutions.

These young civil servants have a great ability to influence policymaking. One young civil servant said that the process of policymaking and advocacy by the Indonesian government at the global level involves many young civil servants. The role they play in supporting the climate and environmental movement at one of the ministries, among others, is to analyze various climate change negotiations, such as reviewing international cooperation documents and proposals, helping map Government commitments in various countries in Asia, compiling data systems, and managing social media and digital campaigns of the ministry. At the village level, a youth participant, who served as a village secretary, successfully contributed to the implementation of green programs and budgets in their village.

Despite these opportunities, youths in government institutions still find it challenging to influencing policymaking. Young participants from the Government acknowledged that it takes a long time for youths to be able to provide policy input even from within the system. If a young civil servant has input, this first has to pass through several tiers of official hierarchy (namely echelon 4, 3, 2, to 1). However, this process can vary depending on the policymaking forum and the type of policy issued, that is to say, some policies can be decided at echelon 1 or the minister level. In other words, although young civil servants are free to share their suggestions, it is still senior officials or policymakers who have the final say.

In contrast to young civil servants, climate and environmental activism by youth workers in the private sector is more an off-the-job activity. Their climate and environmental activities tend to be unrelated to where they work but are instead informed by the particular youth communities or organizations of which they are a member. However, one youth participant mentioned that the participation of young workers, including those from the private sector, is often not as active as that of students because they find it harder to find the time.

Besides being a part of the government or private sector, youths also engage in climate and environmental activities with the government through:

- Youth involvement in policy advocacy activities, either through direct policy dialogues and informal communication with policy makers (both executive and legislative), or by participating in the formulation of policy documents for a particular region.
- Youth engagement in government-organized opinion polls.
- Youth involvement in government-facilitated participation forums.⁶
- Youth participation as presenters or participants in government activities.
- Youth participation as participants in or beneficiaries of particular Government programs/activities.⁷
- Youth participation as partners.⁸

⁶ For example, Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari is a medium for advocacy with the district government and for networking with other stakeholders; forum for expressing youth opinions through the Cengkrama Iklim initiative; youth forums at the international level, such as the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education; and the government initiatives that involve youths as speakers.

⁷ For example, Program Kampung Iklim (Proklim - Climate Village Program), Adiwiyata School, Sakawana Bakti, Saka Kalpataru, and Teens Go Green (which were also initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and the Jakarta Regional Government).

⁸ For example, working with the local government in managing initiatives such as Rumah Baca, integrated waste and sewage management, rainfall measurement.

According to youth participants, when it comes to advocacy with local governments, the relationship between central and local governments leaves a lot to be desired. Based on one participant's experience, local governments, especially at the district level, tend to follow the instructions of the central government in regard to policymaking. In particular, youth participants also observed that youths in rural areas are quite active in various climate and environmental initiatives even though these are rarely covered by the media or known to the general public. Village youths are already involved in decision making at the village level, for instance in the development of the concept of village tourism.

In terms of participation opportunities, youth participants note that often only certain youths can participate in various decision-making processes. At the national and local levels, youths who have the most opportunities to participate are those from the Student Executive Board (BEM), youths with "safer" issues to advocate for, such as waste issues, and youths who are "politically neutral" and who already have connections with the government. Some youth participants noted that many youths remain excluded from these participation opportunities, particularly vulnerable youths, indigenous youths, youth groups focusing on more "sensitive" issues, and youths from religious and gender minorities. Participants felt that the limited opportunity for participating in policymaking is one of the major challenges for increasing youth engagement, especially among economically marginalized youths.

Box 3. Tokenism in Youth Engagement

Despite ample space and opportunity for genuine participation in policy making, the government frequently resorts to tokenism when it comes to engaging youths.

Some youth participants felt that the Government was not yet fully open to more meaningful participation and input from youths. A youth participant, for example, had difficulty becoming involved in policymaking and needed to lobby Government insiders just to be involved.

The government is also perceived as inconsistent in granting an audience with youths, even when they work within the same institution. For instance, youths who are granted an audience by a directorate of a ministry may not receive the same treatment and access from another directorate. Youth participants also observed that the selection of certain young officials or representatives from the millennial generation seemed to be a 'gimmick' because the Government appears to choose only young people who tend to side with the Government.

Youth participants in this study believe that tokenism in policymaking is caused by a number of factors, including the government's reluctance toward acting on climate and environmental issues as well as the limited perspective that policymakers have on youth engagement in policymaking.

A youth expert participant noted that government support for youth engagement in climate and environmental issues tends to be limited to less- or non-political aspects, such as lifestyle, plastic waste, circular economy, green startups, fast fashion, and green entrepreneurship. Meanwhile, when it comes to more political aspects, such as carbon trading, rights of indigenous people, land conflicts, and the impact of the mining industry, the government tends to see youths as lacking sufficient capacity, which is why they often disagree with what youths have to say about these matters.

The government is also seen as not being serious about acknowledging youths as partners in policymaking. A youth participant mentioned that the way the Government communicates seems to assume that youths do not understand the regulations and issues that are being protested against. Youths are still considered as irrelevant individuals or as groups who do not need to be involved by policymakers; youths do not understand the core issue ("green") and are positioned as "cute little stakeholders" or as insignificant stakeholders with insubstantial involvement. According to a youth participant, when the Government engages youths in activities, it often positions itself as a patron, praising youths as an inspiration without really taking their voices and opinions into account.

Youths often face a double burden when involved in policymaking activities. An adult expert noted that when youths voice their opinions to policymakers, this is often followed by demands to also provide solutions to the problems that have been raised. Central government representatives tend to think that youths should also offer solutions and actively contribute to fixing problems instead of merely criticizing the government. However, active and critical youths often have to suffer the presumption that they are too young to be able to offer substantial or meaningful solutions for policymaking.

Besides being engaged by the government, youths also actively engage the government in various ways, including:

- Policy advocacy aimed at systemic change, which is done by conducting hearings, submitting policy papers, or sending recommendations in the form of letters.
- Engaging in dialogue with stakeholders, from the national to village and sub-district levels.
- Inviting Government representatives as a speaker or expert to youth activities that are open to public.
- Assistance and mentoring (reverse mentoring⁹) to local governments.
- Taking the initiative to ask for support from the government, especially from the local government in youth-run programs.

However, instances of government engagement by youths are still few and far between. A youth participant noted that not many youths are willing to engage the government because some government policies are perceived as contributing to environmental destruction. In addition, youth participants also felt that the government often listens more to the wishes of private companies than the voices and aspirations of youths. An adult academic participant also pointed out that an important challenge in engaging the government is that it relies on ways and approaches that are limited by the bureaucratic process, which makes it difficult for the government to keep up with the pace of youths who are demanding fast changes.

A specific communication strategy is therefore necessary for youths to build a good relationship with the Government. Youths realize that a communication approach can also determine the quality of their relationship. A soft approach, which sometimes means speaking “calmly and politely” is preferred by the Government because it positions youths as non-threatening parties.

Finally, some youths have engaged the private sector, although examples of this form of engagement are also rare. According to some participants, private sector engagement has not been widely practiced, and opportunities for this are still minimal. Private sector involvement tends to be in the form of funding support and short-term collaboration on very specific issues. For instance, the private sector supports and sponsors youth campaigns, and young people work with startups to develop social campaigns around energy issues. Another example is a youth community that is working with a startup on food security issues to bring food producers and consumers together.

Meanwhile, a narrative about the private sector as being harmful to the environment, and particularly companies in the extractive sector, was mentioned several times by participants in this study. Youth participants and experts considered the search for resources by companies in the extractive sector to be a cause of climate and environmental problems in certain regions. These efforts have damaged the environment and harmed communities, especially indigenous peoples. In one of the eastern regions of Indonesia, youth participants also noted that youth movements often face pressure from such private companies.

⁹ *Reverse mentoring* refers to a mentoring process in which a more junior person mentors a more senior person. In the context of this study, youths, who are usually on the receiving end of mentorship, can also act as mentors for adults. The goal is to help adults develop new skills and connect with the younger generation.



Factors that Influence Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

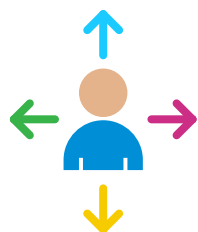
This study finds that the drivers, barriers, and aspirations of youths who engage in climate and environmental issues are often intertwined. Enabling factors are strongly linked to efforts to address and overcome barriers, and aspirations or hopes are often linked to the absence of enabling factors or to the barriers that youths currently face.

Each of the enabling factors and barriers can be further categorized into individual, social interaction, community/organization, and external factors. Social interaction factors may include the interactions that youths have with people around them, especially fellow youths and adult stakeholders.

Based on the literature review and the main findings of this study, the most dominant enabling factor is the individual factor. This factor includes personal interests and aspirations as well as concerns about the impact of climate and environmental crises in the present but especially in the future. In contrast to the enabling factors, barriers tend to be more related to external issues, such as personal safety risks, security, and funding.

5.1 Factors that Enable Youth Engagement

Findings from the Literature Review



Individual Factors

Interest in climate and environmental issues, altruism, personal ambition, desire for social acceptance, making new friends, or finding a platform for self-actualization are found in the literature as the predominant drivers of youth engagement in climate and environmental activism.

Van Reeuwijk (2018) found that the wish to help others is a strong motivation for youth involvement in activism, while Alam (2016) found that moral reasons for preserving nature, a sense of solidarity, opportunities for self-actualization and socializing with peers, are all strong motivations for youths to engage in activism. Nilan and Wibawanto (2015) observed that many youth activists joined gardening campaigns in order to showcase their gardens on social media. In addition, leisure activities, a sense of camaraderie, and emotional comfort are also factors that support youth engagement (Tanu & Parker, 2018).

Concerns about the impact of climate and environmental crises as well as a desire to make a difference also motivate youths to engage in activism. Youths who are involved in activism are generally driven by the difficulties that one can experience in life and have great anxiety about the future of younger generations (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015; Peace et al., 2012). Youths will also be motivated to protest when they believe that political engagement will make a difference (Zhu et al., 2018; Mok et al., 2013). Other studies suggest that personal experience with being affected by floods (Kurniawan, 2021) and health deterioration due to smoke from forest fires (Nilan, 2018; Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015) are also triggers for youths to become involved in the environmental movement.

Our literature review suggests that educational background, identity, and religious teachings are enabling factors for youth engagement in activism. Higher education background has a positive effect on civic engagement among youths (Saud, et al. 2020; Campbell, 2009), but education level alone is not enough to increase the likelihood of participation in civic action (Campbell, 2009).

In Indonesia, several reputable universities have implemented a “green campus” policy, which is thought to have contributed to greater environmental awareness among students (Nilan, 2017). In addition, religious teachings (Parker & Nilan, 2013) and cultural or indigenous identity (Alam, 2016) are also among the factors that drive youths to mobilize.



Social Interactions

Interaction with and support from peers encourages youths to become involved as well as stay involved in a movement.

Solidarity, a sense of kinship and belonging within the community (Alam, 2016) as well as more dynamic leadership from young leaders (Tanu & Parker, 2018) have encouraged youths to engage in environmental activism. In addition, interactions with fellow youths also contribute to their decision to join a movement. Celebrities or influencers (Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015), including K-Pop groups (Andini & Akhni, 2021), exert great influence as social marketers in Indonesia, particularly when it comes to engaging youths in environmental issues.

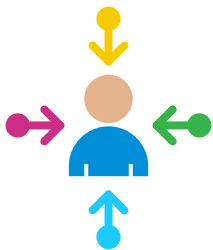
Interactions with adults who encourage youths to engage in climate and environmental movements are mostly limited to those working non-governmental organizations. Non-governmental organizations also play a role in encouraging youths to become interested in activism, especially when these organizations are perceived as a source of inspiration, guidance, and capacity building (Ida et al., 2020b; Lovejoy et al., 2012; Saud & Margono, 2021).



Community or Organization

Strategies for organizing youth groups and actions undertaken by youths are cited in the literature as contributing factors to successful activism.

Communication strategies through online platforms, persuasive use of anti-capitalist framing (Alam, 2020), and the use of animated characters as campaign symbols (Hersinta & Sofia, 2020), were found to be enabling factors for the success of a movement. Careful preparation prior to carrying out action, such as providing training to and assessment of participating activists, is also an effective strategy (Alam, 2016). Youths noted the important role of capacity building and participation opportunities for ensuring their continuing involvement in activism (Alam et al., 2019). One article mentioned donor funding as a relevant factor in supporting youth activism (Alam & Nilan, 2015).



External Factors

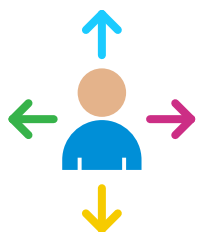
The literature also discussed the important role that technology and media play when it comes to disseminating information as well as encouraging youths to act (Andini & Akhni, 2021; Alam, 2020; Argo et al., 2016; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Warren et al., 2016).

Pickerill (2001) argued that the internet acts as a “gateway to activism; to raise the profile or group campaigns, to stimulate local activism, and to mobilize online activism as well as attracting participants to support existing protests” (Hersinta & Sofia, 2020). Digital literacy is also thought to increase youth enthusiasm for and participation in an activity or program (Azis et al., 2020).

Furthermore, social media is considered an effective means for connecting and accelerating the delivery of information to communities across geographic locations as well as for mobilizing youth movements (Ida et al., 2020a; Lovejoy et al., 2012; Saud & Margono, 2021; Alam, 2020; Nilan & Wibawanto, 2015; Sugihartati, 2020). Hersinta & Sofia (2020) mentioned that social media plays a role in coordinating action, distributing information, and allowing youths to participate in the lobbying process. Saud & Margono (2021) also argued that social media contributes to supporting youth participation in democracy by amplifying youth voices. Moreover, social media plays a major role in influencing political changes by facilitating interactive discussions (Azis et al., 2020). Meanwhile, television media in Indonesia has frequently notified the public about environmental issues, such as the 2017-2018 forest fires (Hersinta & Sofia, 2020).

Although not specifically discussed, some studies noted the role that policies can play in facilitating the sustainability of youth activism. Findings from our literature review suggest that the government plays a role in supporting youth movements through national policies (Meyers, 2017), facilitating policy developments (Alam, 2016), and empowering youth communities (Meyers, 2017). Some local governments also give support to local activism (Alam, 2016; Tanu & Parker, 2018).

Key Findings



Individual Factors

One of the reasons for youths to become involved in civic action is concern about the impact of climate and environmental crises as well as concern about the future state of the environment if the current climate crisis is not addressed.

Several youth participants mentioned that their personal experience of being affected by the climate crisis, especially seeing its impact on ecosystems, personal health, and social relations, encouraged them to become active in efforts to overcome this crisis. Youths are driven to act by being exposed to environmental issues in the media as well as by witnessing the experiences of other people and vulnerable groups who have been affected by environmental problems.

Youths cited aspirations, personal interest, and free time as enabling their involvement in climate activism. Several youth participants mentioned that having an interest in environmental issues and an aspiration to work in sectors related to climate crisis management were both important motivations for becoming involved and even pursuing a career in environmental organizations. A youth participant suggested that being involved in environmental issues was their calling. In addition, some youths also mentioned that having free time and a desire to fill this time with meaningful activities encouraged them to participate in environmental activism. The physical restrictions that were enforced during the Covid-19 pandemic have provided time and space for youths to think about and reflect on existing environmental issues and to engage in campaigns against the climate crisis.

Prior experience with participating in environmental activism was also presented as one of the factors that drive youths to become and stay involved in the environmental movement. A youth participant said that prior experience with volunteering in an environmental organization led them to work on and engage in environmental issues more deeply. Another youth participant recounted that, despite having no strong reason for becoming involved initially, they continued to work in the sector and managed to develop their skills and expertise over time.

Educational background also drives youth involvement in the environmental movement. According to participants, youths who are active in such movements are generally educated, informed about issues, and have access to information. On-campus activities expose youths to information about the climate crisis and provide them with a network for participating in off-campus activities. Several participants mentioned that they majored in studies that are closely related to environmental issues, which further encouraged them to apply their academic knowledge and expertise in their activism. Access to education and obtainment of degrees are also linked to socioeconomic opportunities and status.

In addition, the ability to think critically and strategically as well as having the skills to manage a community and all its activities are also supporting factors for the sustainability of youth activism. Several youth participants pointed out the importance of having community organizing skills. The ability to communicate issues to other youths and to attract them to becoming involved in actions is also considered a driver for sustained activism.

Youth participants revealed that their indigenous identity, or otherwise being part of a vulnerable population, frequently motivated them to engage in environmental issues. One of the youth participants mentioned that traditional beliefs and values could encourage youth engagement in some areas. For example, indigenous peoples in West Kalimantan see the environment they live in as being part of their body, which means that they believe that damage to the ecosystem will also damage their bodies.

Religious teachings also emerged as a motivating factor for youth involvement in the environmental movement. Some youth participants suggested that a driving factor for activism is their own religious beliefs, such as progressive religious teachings that underscore the importance of benevolence and beneficence towards other living beings. During one of the FGD sessions, a youth participant mentioned that the Islamic concept of "Khalifah" (leader on earth) motivated their engagement in environmental issues.



Social Interaction

Youth participants believe that young influencers or public figures play a significant role in encouraging fellow youths' enthusiasm for environmental issues and their involvement in activism

One youth participant noted that fan-based activism in Indonesia is primarily driven by K-Pop fans who mobilize youths to take action on environmental issues. This observation was confirmed by one adult participant who mentioned that youths are capable of creating a bandwagon effect in which fans encourage each other to speak out on or engage in issues they consider important.

Friendship networks also encourage youths to engage in and stay involved with activism. As discussed in Section 4, youth involvement in the climate and environmental movement is influenced by social relations or friendship networks that are formed through the organizations or communities they participate in.

This study suggests that youth involvement in an organization/ community is often informed by kinship ties that are based on ethnicity, particularly as observed in regionally-based student associations. According to several youth participants, student associations encourage engagement and help raise awareness about environmental issues. In one case, a regional students' association successfully encouraged its members to take part in activism for indigenous land preservation in their home regions.

Youths highlighted that support from experienced ENGOs and organizations contributes to the development and sustainability of youth activism. Common forms of support offered by such organizations in terms of capacity building include developing deep knowledge on certain issues or teaching various strategies for managing activities more effectively. These organizations also help to expand youth networks and broaden the impact of such movements. Apart from the role of such organizations, one of the youth participants mentioned that the media help put youths in touch with experts or academics to discuss environmental issues and exchange knowledge.

Support from surrounding adults, such as teachers and mentors, in disseminating information about environmental issues and improving capacity building also encourages youth involvement in activism. A participant underscored the crucial role that mentors play in inspiring youths to take action. Mentors provide moral support as well as give advice, criticism, and information that is needed to develop and enrich youth initiatives. Furthermore, some participants pointed out that a sense of reciprocity and the development of bonds with program beneficiaries, especially when they see the practical results of their activism in the lives of other people, are also strong reasons for staying involved with an organization or community.

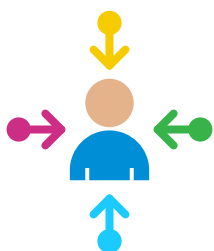


Community or Organization

Youth participants in this study discussed how various strategies that have been implemented in organizations or communities are enabling factors for the success of their activism.

Communities or organizations that are diverse, inclusive, and that support the self-development of their members, were mentioned as being important factors for encouraging youths to stay in the environmental movement. Youth participants also said that upholding consistency in carrying out activities through planning, training, and periodic evaluation, is an important strategy for achieving success in their activism. Strategies for recruiting new members and for engaging more youths are also ways to develop and support the success of their activism. One strategy is to use social media, such as Instagram, to disseminate information and to invite youth to discuss issues in WhatsApp groups. A youth participant revealed that, in order to maintain the sustainability of youth activism, recruitment was carried out at the village level that by coupling activities with certain incentives, such as selling merchandise to attract youth involvement.

Funding support also emerged as a driving factor for the sustainability and success of youth activism. In addition to funding from donors, adult participants mentioned that there are opportunities for youths, especially those living in villages, to make use of Village Funds.



External Factors

Technology, the media, and movements on climate and environmental issues – both at the global and national level – were seen by study participants as catalysts for successful youth engagement and activism.

Technology and the media play an important role in providing access to information, which in turn increases youths' awareness and understanding of climate and environmental issues, even to the point of being able to mobilize large crowds. A youth participant mentioned that the availability and transparency of information, especially over the internet and through social media, have made youths more critical in their discussions about climate and environmental issues. Another participant observed that youths are already accessing complex scientific documents, such as IPCC (The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reports and articles in academic journals.

Youth-driven campaigns are also one of the factors that encourage other youths to obtain information that can influence their involvement in environmental issues. One example of such a campaign was initiated by the activist Greta Thunberg, which gave momentum to the youth climate crisis movement and encouraged other youths to gain a better understanding of climate issues and to engage in activism. Adult participants added that there is a desire to connect with the struggles of fellow youths in other countries.

At the national level, domestic events are also found to be connected to youths' increased concern with and curiosity about climate and environmental issues. A youth participant mentioned that the screening of the documentary *Sexy Killer* in 2019 was a turning point for awareness about environmental issues among youths. A youth participant also observed that youths have become more aware of climate and environmental issues following investigations into issues with palm oil plantations and mining cases as well as land conflicts and evictions that highlighted the political turmoil surrounding the 2014 elections.

Without going into specifics, youth participants also mentioned that policies have indirectly played a role in their activism. Youth participants said that government policies that encourage freedom of speech and civil movements could also be a supporting factor for youth engagement. Young participants also shared that government programs such as the Adiwiyata Program, which rewards schools that carry out environmental activities, have helped encourage youths' awareness of environmental issues.

International forums that facilitate youth involvement are also considered to have an indirect role in encouraging youth activism in Indonesia. One of the youth participants in a FGD mentioned the role that international forums and global affiliations play for the success of youth activism on climate and environmental issues. Exposure to global activism can also inspire domestic action and influence political momentum at the national level.

Box 4. Some Examples of Success Stories

Youths define what count as successful activism differently, ranging from direct results of activities to success at the level of behavioral or policy change. The following are some examples of what youths consider as successful activism:

1 Success in influencing or achieving a systemic or policy change

The Plastic Bag Diet campaign and the Plastic Island “Pulau Plastik” action¹⁰ are considered as having been successful in pushing for local regulations that make consumers pay for plastic bags and that encourage changes in the waste management system. At the campus level, one participant’s civic action managed to convince a local convenience store to phase out single-use plastics.

In addition, there have also been “small” successes, such as delaying policies that damage the environment. For example, the #SaveKinipan campaign successfully encouraged local governments to grant forest rights to indigenous communities. In another case, efforts by the Wadas Melawan movement to resist andesite rock mining managed to delay the eviction of residents for several days. Similarly, local youth activism succeeded in delaying the construction of steam power plants in Batang and Buleleng.

2 Stakeholder buy-in or recognition of youth action

Youths consider their activism successful when they are able to gain recognition or buy-in from relevant stakeholders, such as governments or companies. Some examples include: a waste management innovation in Surabaya gained recognition from the local government, a local youth initiative to collect rainfall data was adopted by the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), and a waste bank program run by local youths was successfully transformed into a Village-Owned Enterprise (Bumdes). Youths also cited recognition from the private sector and other organizations as a form of success. For example, findings from a study on waste management carried out by a youth community were adopted by companies in the tourism sector. Another form of recognition is getting invited to speak about environmental issues at conferences or events by universities, embassies, and environmental organizations.

3 Behavioral change in the community, including among youths

One of the FGD participants defined success as being able to convince friends who live outside big cities to become more environmentally friendly, for example, by reducing the use of detergents and plastic materials. In a similar vein, other youths defined success as adopting an ecological lifestyle and encouraging their families to reduce waste, air pollution, and chemical use. Another participant managed to encourage housewives not to throw away used cooking oil, and instead to have it collected through the Migos (Used Cooking Oil) Program.

4 More youths voice their concerns about environmental issues

Success is also widely interpreted by youths as being able to convince other youths to become involved in and concerned about environmental issues. Some participants observed a growing interest and involvement in environmental issues as well as increased alignment in advocacy among various youth communities.

¹⁰ Pulau Plastik (Plastic Island) is a collaborative campaign to tackle the issue of single-use plastic in Bali and beyond

One participant also argued that being able to reach youths who are living outside Jakarta through their activism was a form of achievement. The fact that more and more youths are now concerned about and critical of environmental issues in discussions on social media platforms, such as Twitter, was also cited as an achievement. A student activist shared that since joining an environmental community, many of his/her friends have chosen environmental issues as topics for speech or presentation exercises.

5 Changes in the living situation of vulnerable groups affected by the climate crisis

One youth community initiated a sustainable plastic waste management campaign by involving waste pickers in their village. This campaign succeeded in increasing the income and welfare of waste pickers as well as reducing plastic waste that would otherwise have been dumped into the sea. In another example, a youth community engaged in renewable energy succeeded in making farmers energy independent, which was particularly helpful in overcoming drought. In Purbalingga, Central Java, the community helped farmers install solar panels that could be used to pump up water for irrigating the surrounding rice fields.

6 Achieved targets and outputs

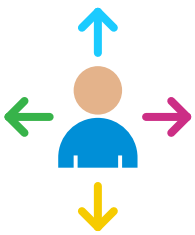
Youths associate success with the achievement of outputs in the activities that they initiate. One example is the successful publication of a book documenting youths' concerns about climate change for World Humanitarian Day. Other examples include collecting up to 100 kilograms of waste during a cleanup campaign as well mangrove planting activities.

7 Securing funding sources

The ability to become self-reliant and to diversify funding sources so that one does not have to rely solely on one or two donors is also considered an achievement to those who are involved in youth activism. One FGD participant also mentioned the acceptance of a village greening budget proposal as a form of success.

5.2 Factors that Impede Youth Engagement

Findings from the Literature Review



Individual Factors

Without going in-depth, the literature frequently discusses to the role of various youth characteristics, such as geographic location, lack of critical thinking skills, and career dilemmas, as factors that hinder youth engagement.

Youth organizations in urban areas have more opportunities to grow (Ridwan & Wu, 2018) and better access to technology and internet than organizations in rural areas (Rahmawan, 2018). Kurniawan et al. (2021) argued that youths lack critical thinking skills and a concern about environmental issues that are taking place around them. Furthermore, Nilan (2018) discussed the dilemma faced by youths on whether to pursue a more promising career in the palm oil or mining industries or to continue their activism on environmental issues.

Youths' lack of interest in climate and environmental issues has also been mentioned in the literature. Nilan (2018) argued that there is a lack of interest among youths, communities, and the news media to act on the issue of forest fires. Parker et al. (2018) suggested that youths do not fully understand who needs to take responsibility for climate change and what needs to be done to address this issue.



Social Interactions

The literature also discusses issues with tokenism that hinder meaningful youth engagement in policymaking.

Crosby (2013) explained that youth involvement in educational institutions is oriented towards environmental conservation activities, such as proper waste disposal practices, animal species preservation, camping, mountain climbing, rafting, and preventing forest destruction (Nilan, 2018).

However, Nilan (2015) argued that some of the activities mentioned above are superficial in nature and not oriented towards critically understanding the importance of activism on climate and environmental issues.

Various forms of discrimination and social exclusion are also obstacles for the sustainability of youth activism. Studies have discussed forms of discrimination against youths by adults who perceive youths as lacking capacity and as being apolitical (Azis et al., 2020), and the exclusion and discrimination of youths with disabilities from activism (Meyers, 2017). Youths who are activists are stigmatized by other youths as low-class citizens (Tanu & Parker, 2018) and adults often dominate discussions and actions (Alam et al., 2019). Some training and capacity-building activities on climate and environmental issues are also costly, which makes it difficult for youths from the lower middle class to gain access (Alam & Nilan, 2015).

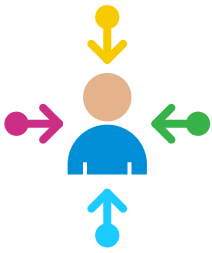


Community or Organization

The lack of strong information systems concerning environmental issues and climate change that are available to the public has made it difficult for youths to enact change.

Schools have not yet provided lessons on climate change issues to their students (Nilan, 2015), while in some universities the youth movement is still constrained by limited campus facilities for accessing relevant information (Nilan, 2018).

Funding issues are also a challenge. Nilan (2018) noted that youths face difficulties in securing funding for their initiatives. Major donors generally only support causes that have greater political value (Alam et al., 2019).



External Factors

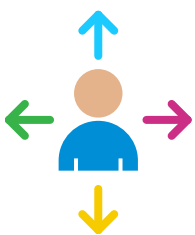
Security risks and personal safety are challenges for engaging in activism. Youths are often at risk of interrogation and intimidation by police and security authorities when they take to the streets to protest (Alam, 2016).

Meanwhile, online activism can also be challenging as it is often restricted by regulations and the actions of authorities (Saud & Margono, 2021).

Youths have not been involved much by the government, especially in policy formulation. The lack of youth involvement in policy formulation was also conveyed by the majority of participants in a survey conducted by Generasi Melek Politik in Riau (Amri et al., 2021c), West Kalimantan (Amri et al., 2021b), Central Sulawesi (Amri et al., 2021d), and Gorontalo (Amri et al., 2021a).

Many government activities involving youths also remain symbolic in nature (Kurniawan et al., 2021). A survey of youths conducted by Yayasan CERAH Indonesia and Change.org also revealed that 63 percent of youths felt that bureaucratic problems, including weak law enforcement, lack of regulations, lack of understanding among policy makers, and little political will, have hindered the achievements of movements concerned with climate crisis issues (CERAH & Change.org, 2020). In addition, the government does not see climate change as a national problem (Parker et al., 2018) and does not support youth activities that pertain to climate change (Tanu & Parker, 2018).

Key Findings



Individual Factors

Some participants shared the opinion that there are still youths who are not concerned about climate and environmental issues. This factor is also linked to a lack of access to information, educational background, and economic status, which means that only youths who have resources, capacity, and time can participate.

Youths from lower economic classes tend to spend their time working, which means they do not have the time to learn about and engage with climate and environmental issues. Some youth participants also argued that many youths spend most of their time completing their academic work for school, thus leaving no time to participate in climate and environmental issues.

Youth participants also mentioned the lack of critical thinking skills, especially because climate issues are complex. One adult participant agreed with this and mentioned that youths are still unable to think systemically or understand the root cause of certain problems. Youths tend to think pragmatically and in silos (see issues in isolation) as well as to just follow trends.

Youth participants also mentioned individual challenges that are informed by people around them, such as parents and peers. Some participants mentioned that their parents demand that they choose a "stable" career over working in an environmental or climate organization. Others cite that the same demands can be made by peers (peer pressure), or that they experience other forms of social pressure. Some school-aged youth participants mentioned that parental permission often hinders their activism, especially because some parents consider activism to be a negative activity.

Mental health is also an influential factor for those who are already active in climate and environmental issues. A youth participant admitted that they sometimes experience mental fatigue or secondary trauma after helping communities who were victims of land conflicts.



Social Interactions

Both youth and adult participants cited the fragmentation of the youth movement as an important challenge.

Adult participants observed that some youth communities/organizations still focus on their own issues and activities, thus making it difficult to unite.

Youth participants added that youths sometimes have different perceptions and viewpoints on how to address a problem. Participants from indigenous youth organizations also highlighted the lack of collaboration between indigenous youths and urban youths. Other participants also added the challenge of linking issues that are faced indigenous youths to the broader narrative of climate change.

Another challenge is the difficulty of maintaining the sustainability of youth movements, especially when recruiting youths who are willing to be consistent in their activism. The voluntary nature of the youth movement and its reliance on volunteers means that not many youths stay in the movement for very long. Youth participants said that the “job-hopping” tendency of youths is also one of the factors that affects the consistency of youth activism. Another young participant added that it is difficult to maintain consistency in youth engagement without the right incentives. According to an organization that, among other things, provides short courses to youths, of the many youths who have attended the course, only a few have remained actively engaged in climate and environmental issues. Tokenism by policy makers is a barrier for youths to actively and meaningfully participate in policy formulation. Youths are burdened with the additional responsibility of providing solutions on top of providing criticism, when in fact it is not their job to do so. A youth participant also noted the lack of trust from adults in the ability of youths. This distrust can manifest, for instance, in the way that adults take control over youths in directing youth issues. Another participant added that senior members in their organization tend to underestimate the validity of the opinions expressed by youths.

In terms of interactions with the community, some youths cited the lack of climate literacy in the community as a barrier to their activism. A youth working with local farmers, for example, mentioned that local farmers believe that changes in the weather are influenced by fate. However, youths also mentioned facing internal challenges when it comes to educating or interacting with local communities. For example, some young activists often use jargon to convey their ideas, thus making it difficult for the wider public to understand their arguments.

Youth participants also mentioned that some people are only oriented toward achieving material gain. Two youth participants who had assisted indigenous peoples mentioned that there were people in the community who actually allowed land clearing on indigenous lands in order to gain material benefits for themselves. Other youths mentioned that some people would only participate in activities if they were promised material compensation. In addition, some youths also mentioned that some members of society still have a negative opinion of some forms of youth civic action, such as for example, when youths hold protests.



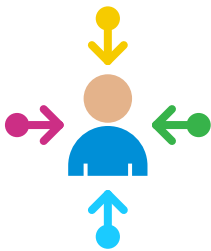
Community or Organization

Internal factors related to the community or organization are mainly tied to the challenge of securing funding support. Youth organizations still find it difficult to secure funding for activities within their communities/ organizations.

Some youths expressed that there is a lack of funding sources, especially for youth activities that require substantial funds, such as creating waste management technologies. They are also aware that this could also be due to the limited information on funding sources that is available to youths. One youth participant felt that there is a need for a platform that contains information about the various donors working on climate and environmental issues. Meanwhile, a youth participant with substantial experience in climate issues also saw a risk in the presence of donors. The presence of donors can divide youths based on their different agendas, which makes it more difficult to achieve collaboration or cooperation among youths.

When it comes to organizational governance, one youth participant mentioned that youths still need capacity building for strategies to manage an organization properly and effectively. Other participants observed the existence of internal bureaucratic constraints that hindered activities on the ground. These constraints have become even more evident since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, as most activities have shifted from face-to-face to online. An organization’s strong reputation can sometimes also hinder youth activities, especially when dealing directly with the community because this reputation has the potential to make community members feel inferior. Another youth participant added that leadership factors can have implications for whether or not an organization is sustainable.

Another youth participant noted that environmental organizations tend to be patriarchal. Director positions and other important positions are often dominated by men. Even when a woman holds a position, she will act masculine in order to maintain her authority.



External Factors

Participants in the study assigned different levels of risk to the climate and environmental activism they observed within and around them.

Many online or 'safe' activities, such as cleaning the rubbish, were labeled low-risk activism.

At the same time, offline protests against the government or big corporations were considered high-risk activism.

Security risks faced by youths and policies that hinder youth movements are the dominant factors mentioned by both youth and adult participants. Youth participants often mentioned the risk of intimidation, repression, and criminalization, especially for those working on sensitive issues, such as mining conflicts and indigenous land grabs, which usually involve powerful corporations or government authorities. A young school-age participant stated that they were intimidated by security forces while giving a speech about the welfare of indigenous peoples in front of the ministry's office. Another participant added that even in peaceful protests the risk of repression and violence remains. They recalled being dragged away by security forces while carrying a poster during a street march. Another participant noted that youth movements in the Papua region are often under pressure from the government or other stakeholders such as corporations. Two youth participants even mentioned the fear of losing their lives in their sphere of activism.

Digital security risks were mentioned quite frequently by participants in this study. "Rubber" articles in the ITE Law (Law No. 19/2016 on Amendments to Law No. 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions) are frequent topics in discussions about digital security. The ITE Law restricts participation and exposes young activists to the risk of criminalization when they criticize climate and environmental policies on social media. This discourages youths from voicing criticism or expressing their aspirations in the digital realm. Another concern is digital privacy and security. A youth participant recalled being doxed and having their WhatsApp hacked as a result of their activism.

Other participants also mentioned being on the opposite side of specific government policies. Instead of being oriented towards climate change mitigation and the protection of vulnerable groups, some government policies tend to favor extractive industries and powerful corporations. The Omnibus Law and the Coal and Mineral Law are most often cited as policies that favor extractive industries and financial investors at the expense of vulnerable communities such as indigenous peoples. The government's lack of support for climate mitigation and environmental conservation is also reflected in the proportion of the state budget that is allocated to the reduction of the impacts of climate change and environmental destruction. The state budget still favors "dirty" energy, and policymakers do not consider carbon tax policies important and relevant.

Aside from policy, external barriers also pertain to national political and educational systems. For example, the national education roadmap tends to be industry-oriented, and the curriculum is designed to prepare graduates for employment in industries. Jobs related to environmental conservation, such as jobs in the agricultural sector, tend to be overlooked and are not seen as "lucrative." An adult participant added that this industry-oriented education system will become an issue for the environment if it is not counterbalanced with a sustainable economic model.

Study participants also observed the lack of youth representation in politics. Two youth participants observed that the political system in Indonesia is still dynastic and favors older groups, thus making it difficult for youths to actively participate. While there are a handful of youths in the political system, they often do not represent the youth vote but rather the so-called family vote or party vote. Youths in the House of Representatives who want to push for policies that favor the climate and environment are hindered by a system in which decisions are made on the basis of factions. At the village level, a participant argued that there are still people in the community who allow illegal deforestation because of the support they receive from the authorities.

Media narratives and polarization are also cited as the barriers for youth activism. According to youths, media coverage and narratives tend to emphasize individual figures and inspirational stories, which creates a distance between "celebrity" activists and other youth activists. Another participant mentioned that polarization (stemming from political choices) among youths is an obstacle to youth solidarity.

Finally, another external barrier mentioned by participants is that of gaps in access to information. This access gap is observed between Javanese and non-Javanese youths, youths in the western and eastern regions of Indonesia,

as well as between urban youths and youths in the regions. This gap in access to information was also discussed in relation to various infrastructures, such as internet connection, access to education, and socioeconomic conditions.

5.3 Changes in Practices and Opportunities Related to Youth Engagement

Findings from the Literature Review

Findings from our literature review highlight that youth engagement in Indonesia started as a political movement, and that it has continued to increase (Ramli, 2012; Saud, et al. 2020; Saud & Margono, 2021), especially after the fall of the New Order regime (Ida et al., 2020b; Parker & Nilan, 2013; Tanu, 2014). Youths, especially students, are increasingly aware about and engaged not just in politics in general but also climate and environmental issues (Nilan, 2017). Increased awareness about the climate crisis is confirmed by the finding that 89 percent of youths feel anxious about the impacts of the climate crisis, as was determined in a survey conducted on youths in 2020 (CERAH & Change.org, 2020). However, some researchers suggest that youth activist movements today are relatively smaller in scope and less likely to take to the streets than during the New Order period (Aspinall, 2012; Nilan, 2018). Currently, youth movements are moving away from forms of activism that involve the destruction of public facilities or that put others in danger (Alam, 2016).

he forms of activism that youths are increasingly interested in are frequently carried out through creative media, community service, and policy advocacy. Alam (2016) discussed the various creative campaigns carried out by youth activists in their effort to protect the Babakan Siliwangi urban forest, such as theatrical performances, dances, and pantomimes. Indonesian youths are also involved in the management of community service activities (Saud, et al. 2020). Youth activism is currently also expanding into different forms of policy advocacy (Nilan, 2015), such as participation in development forums (Argo et al., 2016).

Key Findings

Youth participants in this study have observed changes in trends in youth engagement over the past five years, including changes in the terms used by youth activists, youth awareness and understanding of certain issues, and the strategies employed in youth actions.

This study finds that more and more youths are aware of climate and environmental issues and that they are more active in voicing their opinions about these issues. Activist groups are increasingly diverse, including groups or communities that do not necessarily focus on climate issues, such as K-Pop fandoms and young influencers. Youths used to be more interested in volunteering for large organizations, but now many are directly involved in climate and environmental activism, and some have even set up their own climate and environmental movements or activities.

Youths' understanding of climate and environmental issues has also started to improve compared to a few years ago. In the past, climate change was generally perceived as a case of global warming involving a rising of the Earth's temperature and the melting of the polar ice caps. Currently, youths can clearly see the link between climate change and other problems, such as natural disasters, food security, destruction of the ecosystem, social conflicts, and power struggles. Several participants agreed that climate change is getting closer and is being more clearly felt by youths and society in general, especially since more and more natural disasters have occurred, such as the flash floods in DKI Jakarta in early 2020 or the large forest fires in Sumatra and Kalimantan in 2019. This increase in understanding among youths is also influenced by external structural factors that support youth engagement, such as better access to information due to developments in technology and media as well as various activist campaigns at the global and national level.

In terms of the strategies employed in youth actions, some youth participants noted a change in the media that are used for activism as well as an increase in more creative forms of activism. More and more campaigns are moving online. Meanwhile, protests that used to be carried out in the form of street demonstrations are now carried out in more creative ways, such as long marches involving protest art. Another participant also added that in the past, activities were limited to curative efforts, such as planting trees on barren land, but now activities are becoming more preventive and have become part of a lifestyle, such as seen in, for instance, the zero-waste movement and the adoption of minimalist lifestyles.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, youth participants have different experiences and observations in reflecting on the changing patterns of activism. Some participants noted that the pandemic had positive impacts, because, for instance, more youths joined certain activities, which is assumed to be the case because they now have more free time. The Pulang Kampung (Back to Village) movement that was initiated by indigenous youths can also be interpreted as a result of the fact that many indigenous youths returned to their villages during the pandemic. Another participant noted, however, that the pandemic has had little impact on youth activism. Moreover, some other participants observed a decline in youth activities since the pandemic due to the shift from face-to-face to online activities, because many youths' civic actions used to be carried out in person (offline). This situation indicates that youths need more time to adapt to these changes.

Box 5. Climate and Environmental Youth Activism Media

The rapid development of digital technology has made youths more involved in online movements, especially through social media (Rahmawan, 2018; Saud, et al. 2020; Warren et al., 2016). Alam (2020) discussed the high popularity of social media among youths for campaigning and managing their activism activities. Furthermore, the existence of social media has shown to help youths in expanding the influence of youths' environmental and social movements. In the context of climate change and discussions about technology issues, Twitter is a popular social media in Indonesia (Molaei, 2015).

The high use of social media among youths also contributes to the currently popular phenomenon of fan-based activism. Fan-based activism is an effort by fans of certain public figures to address civic or political issues through the strategic engagement and dissemination of popular culture content (Jenkins, 2011). In Indonesia, one example is the activism of the K-Pop fan community (Andini & Akhni, 2021).

In addition to activism on social media, rallies or street marches are still considered relevant because they are seen as a manifestation of the collective political aspirations of youths and their wish to be consciously involved (Alam, 2016). Street marches by environmental youth movements promote values that are different from those of adults; these protests are sometimes also referred to as "stylized revolutions." Lee in Alam (2020) explains that "stylized revolutions" are protests that are carried out using symbols that youths identify with and that reflect their cultural identity.

Protests by youths on social media are not always conducted independently from street marches. Since 2013, social media protests have become widely recognized and have heavily influenced the public narrative on environmental issues in Indonesia. However, some youth groups argue that social media activism alone is not enough for enacting political transformation (Alam, 2016). Moreover, several studies have suggested that social media plays a major role in facilitating people's involvement in direct protests (Alam, 2020; Hersinta & Sofia, 2020; Saud & Margono, 2021).

5.4 Necessary and Expected Support for Youths

Findings from the Literature Review

Despite growing awareness of climate and environmental issues among youths, publications still highlight the need for support for improving their knowledge and capacity. Forms of support can include education and training for deepening youths' understanding about the issues in order to manage activities more effectively and to encourage evidence-based policies (Kurniawan et al., 2021). Involving parents so that they better understand and support their children is also necessary. Donors who help fund youth activities are also expected to be less bureaucratic and rigid in their approach (Ridwan & Wu, 2018).

Various publications have addressed the need for spaces in which youths can engage, collaborate, and network safely. Both government and society are expected to create a safe space for youths to carry out their activism. Collaboration between adults and youths also needs to be supported (Ridwan & Wu, 2018). In addition, active youth involvement in influencing policymaking or in making social changes also needs to be encouraged (Karlani et al., 2019) because of the low involvement of youths in policy making (Amri et al., 2021a, 2021d, 2021b, 2021c).

Key Findings

Youths in this study expressed various needs in terms of capacity building, including the ability to think critically and understand climate issues and other interconnected social issues, to ensure the movement's success.

Some participants in this study pointed out that there is still a need for various forms of capacity building so that youths can better understand the climate and environmental issues that are occurring around them. It is considered necessary to start this endeavor at the level of schooling, and therefore teachers also need to be equipped with sufficient knowledge. A youth participant deemed it necessary to increase the capacity of youths in rural areas so that they are more aware of climate and environmental issues.

Another important capacity to improve is critical thinking. According to youth participants, critical thinking skills are needed to understand climate issues from a cross-sector perspective and from a system governance perspective so that youths can come up with innovative ideas for addressing such issues. Youth participants considered training in critical thinking skills as something that needs to be included in the formal school curriculum.

Support for capacity building also needs to be adjusted to the specific needs of youth communities. For instance, youth participants expressed the need for training in effective approaches to advocacy, campaigning, and lobbying in order to promote successful activism. For instance, in movements that support indigenous peoples' rights, youths are required to have an ability in managing customary lands.

Efforts to collaborate and network and their role in the success and sustainability of the youth movement also need to receive support from various parties. Youths in this study also emphasized the importance of spaces for collaboration and networking between youth communities. Therefore, support is needed in the form of providing spaces and opportunities for youths to connect and network with various parties, such as the government, private sector, universities, and donor organizations. Through collaboration and networking, youths

can build solidarity, gain access to funding, and cater to movement-specific needs, such as access to legal experts for protection. One youth participant also hoped for the emergence of more startups or social enterprises that are engaged in climate and environmental issues and that encourage collaboration with youths.

Youths also pointed out that policies that support youth engagement as well as funding for youth activities are both needed to support activism. Youth participants realized that there are already some regulations in place that acknowledge the role of youths, but both government and society are still very conservative in their interpretation of these regulations. For instance, participation is often interpreted as merely a formality, which means that actual, meaningful participation still needs to be encouraged. Specifically on this matter, a participant mentioned that there is a need for more policies related to climate and environmental issues that support youth activism. Facilitating policies are considered those that support the success of the youth movement's goals, such as for instance, the regulation that enforces payment for plastic bags in Jakarta. Participants acknowledged that many people are aware of the existing programs, but they nevertheless lack incentives from the government. Moreover, such existing programs have not been followed up in terms of broader regulations.

Youth participants also pointed out that financial support is also needed to support youth engagement. However, one participant reported having rejected financial support from the government because they did not want to be forced to do activities that were not in line with their movement's agenda. Other participants also felt that funding was not necessarily crucial and that the role of sponsors or donors was perhaps not as important.

5.5 The Aspired Future

This study also explored how youths conceive of the future that they hope to see in relation to climate and environmental activism. The following is a synthesis of the various aspirations that were conveyed by youths during this study.

Youth communities collaborating more broadly

Youths mentioned the hope of improved cooperation between urban and rural youths, including indigenous youths. Synergies between youth communities are hoped to influence policymaking, encourage public mobilization and education, and link activism on climate and environmental issues with other social issues. It is also hoped that collaborations can establish networks and information-sharing platforms, which might lead to other types of campaigns, forms of funding, and the creation of more green jobs. This collaboration is necessary not only among youths but also with the surrounding communities and stakeholders.

More youths engaged

Youth participants hope that more youths will be actively involved in contributing to climate and environmental movements. In addition, it is hoped that youths will be more open to learning to be more creative, accepting criticism and suggestions, and better able to enjoy their involvement in activism itself. One participant also said that youth leaders can become agents of change by shifting to a more sustainable lifestyle and thus influencing other youths to follow suit.

Youths are engaged in policy-making processes in a more meaningful way

Youths hope to be more involved in decision-making activities and policymaking, not just as a formality or for the sake of youth representation, which is perceived to be a form of tokenism. Youths also hope for fair representation of climate-affected groups in policymaking processes. There is also a wish for safe spaces in which one can express opinions and not face discrimination on the basis of age.

Government plays a more supportive role in youth activism

Youths hope that the government will be more willing to listen to the voices of youths and that it will produce policies that are fair and in accordance with the needs of the community. Youths also hope that the government will further open up democratic participation by providing opportunities and safe spaces for youths to express their aspirations. A good start would be to not suppress or arrest activists who are involved in critical actions. In addition, youths hope that the government can provide greater opportunities for collaboration with youths in policymaking.

The wider community is more supportive of youth activism

Youths also hope for wider community support because change cannot be achieved by youths alone. It is hoped that the public will participate in protest movements, appreciate the various forms of youth activism, and no longer undermine their efforts. It is also hoped that the community will be more aware of climate and environmental issues and that it will have the courage to voice its opinions. This should particularly be the case for those who are directly affected by the climate crisis.

06

Case Study

This section summarizes our findings of the case study that we conducted on four youth movements by analyzing the youth engagement landscape as well as the factors influencing each initiative.

Some information related to certain topics, especially type 2 movements, might be unavailable or lack relevance; this is due to differences in the characteristics of each initiative and to the different level of detail of the information obtained on type 1 and type 2 initiatives.¹¹ A more detailed description of the report for each movements is provided in Appendix 3.

¹¹ Type 1 movement is an organization/community selected as the main case study, while type 2 movement is an organization/community selected as a complementary case study.

6.1 Youth Engagement Landscape by Case

	GDIKP	Jaga Rimba	SCC - Green Camp	IYCTC
Goal/agenda for change	The main mission of GIDKP is to drastically change people's behavior when it comes to single-use plastics. This mission is achieved by focusing on the upstream side (i.e., intervening before plastic turns into waste) rather than the downstream side (i.e., intervening once plastic has turned into waste).	Jaga Rimba is a youth movement that focuses on forest conservation and campaigning for the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples or affected local communities. Jaga Rimba was also established to work toward the larger goal of building a movement for young people to learn, enter into dialogue, and to speak up about youth rights.	SCC - Green Camp is a program initiated by Change.org Indonesia to bring together women and increase their capacity as drivers of change in promoting campaigns related to climate and environmental issues.	IYCTC is a youth coalition that focuses on making the issue of tobacco control more visible to youths. In addition, IYCTC also seeks to encourage meaningful youth participation in tobacco control issues.
Form of Civil Engagement	Policy advocacy, education, collaboration programs with other institutions.	Raising awareness, providing networking platforms, organizing protests both online and offline.	Training and mentoring to build communities and networks for women who are drivers of change in Indonesia.	Providing a forum for learning and networking for young people on tobacco control issues, engaging in policy advocacy, and developing guidelines for meaningful youth participation.
Civil Engagement Pathway	Professional and educational background related to climate and environmental issues, involvement in climate and environmental networks.	Experience with joining environmental and climate-related organizations, passion and desire to learn about climate and environmental issues, being inspired by the initiators of Jaga Rimba.	Information not available.	Information not available.
Dimension of Civic Engagement	Commitment to contributing to climate and environmental issues, the ability to manage organizational governance to strengthen the movement.	Shared anxiety related to climate and environmental issues, social cohesion (solidarity) in the movement, optimism in terms of expanding the youth movement on climate and environmental issues, especially in non-urban areas.	Collaboration among training participants as well as continued relations between participants and facilitator once training is completed. Civic commitment is built upon the idea that large changes can start with small things.	Collaboration among coalition members is facilitated to support the coalition's change agenda. Shared commitment in fighting for meaningful youth-participation issues.

	GDIKP	Jaga Rimba	SCC - Green Camp	IYCTC
Youth Engagement Strategy	<p>There is no specific target for recruiting young people to join the movement, but it is perceived as a youth organization because it has a high numbers of youths among its initiators.</p> <p>The <i>Envirochallenge</i> program educates high school age youths about climate and environmental issues. Young people are also involved in social campaigns.</p>	<p>No official recruitment system, and no specific targeting of youths.</p> <p>The membership system and the division of roles are carried out voluntarily and there is no official organizational structure.</p> <p>Organize campaigns on social media to tap into and expand youth networks.</p>	<p>No specific targeting of young people, but participants are mostly young women from various backgrounds.</p> <p>Online recruitment channels indicate that applicants are predominantly young.</p>	<p>Targeting young people, both individually and in organizations with diverse backgrounds, to actively raise the issue of tobacco control.</p> <p>Members are predominantly young people aged 15-24 years, prioritizing recruitment for members who want to learn, participate, and who have a diverse gender and level of ability.</p> <p>Recruitment of members is done through organizational mapping, and inviting prospective members to a participating organization, which is then followed up by signing an integrity pact (no affiliation with the tobacco industry and a commitment to preventing violence)</p> <p>A joint statement that is not binding to member organizations, so that member organizations have more freedom.</p>

6.2 Enablers and Barriers of Targeted Changes

	GDIKP	Jaga Rimba	SCC - Green Camp	IYCTC
Enabling Factors	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Engagement and interaction with civil society organizations in global and national networks and alliances.</p> <p>Interaction with government partners, donors, and other stakeholders in advocacy efforts.</p>	<p>Individual Factors</p> <p>The role of Jaga Rimba's initiators in organizing activities and inspiring young people to join.</p>	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Training facilitators are recruited from other institutions, supporting partners are involved in raising participants' stories.</p> <p>Support from partners and NGO networks in disseminating information about the program.</p>	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Collaboration and mutual learning among coalition members.</p> <p>The diversity of coalition members (national and regional) allows for a strong bargaining position in advocacy.</p> <p>The involvement of various youth organizations that were previously not involved with tobacco issues has brought these issues closer to more young people.</p>

	GDIKP	Jaga Rimba	SCC - Green Camp	IYCTC
	<p>Community Factors</p> <p>A working meeting every five years (<i>bootcamp</i>) to discuss the agenda and strategy of the movement.</p> <p>Management's professional expertise, such as expertise in law and communication.</p> <p>Improving organizational governance to improve access to funding.</p> <p>A monitoring system is built into the program (<i>Envirochallenge</i>) for program improvement.</p> <p>External Factors</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has expanded their reach because activities are held online.</p> <p>Both the implementation of the 2013 education curriculum and the Adiwiyata school program encourage acceptance of the <i>Envirochallenge</i> program.</p>	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Relationships with fellow members of Jaga Rimba (close friendships), organizational partners, and the role of the youth community in supporting the activities and sustainability of the movement.</p> <p>Support from adults or stakeholders, such as positive responses from indigenous peoples, parental support, access to literature and films for discussion.</p> <p>Community Factors</p> <p>The fluid and dynamic organizational and membership structure allow for the flexible and easy division of tasks for young people.</p> <p>The characteristics of diverse members affect the exchange of information and knowledge. Members from urban areas have access to a wider range of information, and members from the suburbs have specific experiences of being exposed to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>External Factors</p> <p>Social media and television news programs make young people interested in exploring climate and environmental issues and encourage them to seek out the community and then join Jaga Rimba.</p>	<p>Community Factors</p> <p>The availability of a mechanism for measuring results and documenting program achievements that have been established since the start.</p> <p>The requirement of full attendance at the training sessions encourages participant commitment.</p> <p>Assistance from successful campaigners during training.</p> <p>Outreach and support for participants after the training is complete, such as in reviewing campaign strategies, their implementation, and follow-up advocacy.</p> <p>The breadth and relevance of training materials that are suited to the needs of the participants.</p>	<p>The role of the older generation as allies who assist in the establishment of coalitions and who facilitate relations with donor organizations.</p> <p>Joint efforts are made by the older generations (allies) and young people to learn from each other, and to work equally and meaningfully.</p> <p>Flexibility among donors to allow young people to propose ideas for movement development.</p> <p>Community Factors</p> <p>An open, flexible, and adaptive coalition model, which allows the movement to grow quickly.</p> <p>The initiative to develop guideline lead to new partnerships for coalition</p> <p>The flexibility of the national secretariat in allocating additional budgets facilitates advocacy activities of local members as well as communication activities with regional policymakers.</p>
Barriers	<p>Internal factors</p> <p>The image of being a youth organization causes them to be perceived as less authoritative and credible, which makes it more difficult to carry out advocacy efforts.</p>	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Negative comments from fellow youths, public distrust of the issues raised, and ridicule from other young people.</p>	<p>External Factors</p> <p>Some of the training sessions had to be modified due to the shift from offline to online platforms in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the materials were trimmed, and this affected the interactions between participants.</p>	<p>Community Factors</p> <p>The diversity of coalition members poses challenges to effective member engagement across activities, and especially for activities with limited coalition funding.</p>

	GDIKP	Jaga Rimba	SCC - Green Camp	IYCTC
	<p>Limited time, funding, and shifts in GIDKP's priorities have brought the program (<i>Envirochallenge</i>) to a halt.</p> <p>External factors</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has limited their regular and more effective advocacy activities that are carried out offline.</p> <p>Stakeholder dynamics and politics, including changes in the leadership of key agencies, changes in agency priorities, and changes in policies .</p> <p>Interventions from the plastics industry to disrupt efforts to reduce single-use plastics, including lobbying the government.</p> <p>Lack of public and media understanding about the issues of plastics.</p>	<p>The lack of support from schools and parents, negative comments from the community regarding the competence and age of young members, and tokenism by policy makers.</p> <p>Community Factors</p> <p>Limited organizational funding and busy schedules of members.</p> <p>The voluntary nature of membership makes it difficult for members to fully commit to Jaga Rimba's management.</p> <p>Member locations and financial situations often make participation difficult.</p> <p>Lack of ability in community management.</p> <p>External Factors</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic changed the mode of organizing activities and made some members less interested in participating in online activities.</p> <p>The social media accounts of various Jaga Rimba members were hacked during a protest.</p>	<p>Uneven knowledge of climate and environmental issues among participants prompted the need for diverse training implementation strategies.</p> <p>Participants find it challenging to formulate a clear and measurable strategy for their campaign after the training has been completed.</p> <p>Bureaucratic challenges in the implementation of the campaign, especially for participants who are affiliated with the organization.</p>	<p>Social Interaction Factors</p> <p>Some coalition's members are not directly involved with tobacco control issue, which means they are often less concerned about smoking issues.</p> <p>Differences in perspectives and ways of working, especially when interacting with members of older generations. Older generation tend to give detailed instructions, which can make young people feel more dependent.</p> <p>Detailed directions from donors sometimes make young people feel less trusted, which also affects the flexibility of the movement.</p> <p>External Factors</p> <p>The influence of the tobacco industry is a structural obstacle that has managed to create bias and misperception among the public as well as exert undue influence over certain members of the progressive movement in Indonesia. This makes it difficult to build movements and alliances between and across issues.</p> <p>Tobacco issues are of little interest, receive few resources, and are high risk in terms of advocacy.</p>



07

Review of Youth Engagement Policy Ecosystems

7.1 Policies that Contribute to Civic Engagement in General

Given that policies are a prerequisite for facilitating civic engagement, this review analyzes the various regulations that can affect freedom of expression or public participation in strategic issues.

Every citizen has the constitutional right to participate socially and politically, including in various national development agendas. Law No. 9/1998 and Law No. 39/1999 guarantee the rights of citizens to express opinions in public, obtain legal protection, and participate in efforts to protect, enforce, and promote human rights. In addition, the 2022-2024 Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) states that community participation is one of the principles of national development.

The central and local governments also have an important role in encouraging community participation in local development agendas. Law No. 23/2014 compels the central government and

local governments to raise awareness as well as empower and support youth or civil society organizations in addition to facilitating international cooperation at the national level.

In addition, the government encourages public participation in the monitoring of corruption. According to Government Regulation No. 43/2018, anyone who reports allegations of corruption that turn out to be credible and subsequently investigated, may receive financial compensation from the proceeds that are returned to the state treasury.

Some regulations, either directly or indirectly, have the potential to curb safe spaces for the community, including young people, thus preventing them from participating and expressing their opinions.

This includes the Electronic Information and Transactions Law or Law No. 19/2016, which gives the government the authority to restrict access without conditions and without a clear control mechanism. This regulation gives the government the authority to cut off access to prevent the dissemination and use of electronic information containing prohibited content. However, what constitutes prohibited content is not clearly defined in the law, thus giving room for subjective interpretation. Furthermore, the conditions that may lead to the imposing of restrictions are not specifically formulated, and there is no control mechanism from other institutions to ensure that the clause on "prohibited content" is not misused.

The Criminal Code (KUHP) still contains a clause on defamation, which can hinder the civil liberties for every citizen, including young people. Articles on insulting the president and vice president, crimes against public order, and on crimes against general authorities, have the potential to hinder youth participation. The definition of defamation or insult in these articles is unclear, and it is also unclear what the scope of impact is in order to be called a criminal act, which allows criticism submitted by members of the public to be considered as an insult.

Even though Government Regulation No. 43/2018 provides incentives for reporting corruption cases, there is no guarantee of protection for those whose reports remain unproven. This regulation does not contain a clause for the protection of the complainant from lawsuits, both criminal and civil, for the testimony and/or reports that will be, are being, or have been given.

Several articles related to the environment in Law no. 11/2020 on job creation have the potential to significantly weaken community participation. Through the Job Creation Law, environmental impact analysis is no longer carried out by the Environmental Impact Analysis Assessment Commission (Amdal), which includes members of the community as members of the commission, but is instead carried out by a feasibility test team from the central government. This law also removes a paragraph from a previous law related to the contribution of local wisdom in the prevention of forest fires. The owner of a business or the organizer of an activity only needs to apply for environmental approvals when operating a business without an environmental impact review.¹²

¹² Indonesian Center for Environmental Law. (2020). Berbagai Problematika Dalam Undang-Undang Cipta Kerja Sektor Lingkungan dan Sumber Daya Alam. <https://icel.or.id/seri-analisis/berbagai-problematika-dalam-uu-cipta-kerja-sektor-lingkungan-dan-sumber-daya-alam/>

This law also stipulates that access to information related to environmental approvals can only be obtained through an electronic system or other means determined by the central government, thus preventing people with limited access to digital technology and the internet to obtain information. In the past, the government was obliged to announce information in a

way that was easily accessible by the public. Furthermore, the abolition of Article 38 regarding the cancellation of environmental permits by the State Administrative Court also prevented the public from submitting their right to sue.¹³

7.2 Policies Regarding Youth Engagement in General

This policy review uncovered various regulations governing youth involvement in general, including their presence in various spaces for expressing opinions. This policy analysis finds that discussion on “participation” rather than “engagement” is more common in the regulations that were reviewed. Therefore, participation in this analysis is seen as being a part of civic engagement.

In the 2020-2024 RPJMN, improving the competencies of youths is seen as one of the necessary efforts to improve the quality of human resources. In 2019, the Government launched the Youth Development Index (IPP), which is a national achievement benchmark for improving youths' competencies. Youth participation is one of the domains reviewed in the index, with an achievement score of 46.67 (on a scale of 100) during the 2015-2018 period.

Regulations encourage youth participation through youth programs. Law No. 40/2009 on Youth states that youth participation is an important aspect of the formulation of youth program policies. This regulation recognizes the role of youth participation in policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and in strategic decision making on youth programs.¹⁴ The government has also developed indicators for youth-friendly districts/cities through the Ministry of Youth and Sports Regulation No. 11/2017 to encourage youth participation and capacity building.

The government's commitment to encouraging children's participation in development planning is demonstrated through child-friendly district/city policies (KLA). The government issued Presidential Decree No. 25/2021, which contains a national strategy for implementing KLA on the basis of 24 indicators, one of which concerns the institutionalization of children's participation through children's forums that involve

children in development planning activities and Development Planning Deliberations (Musrenbang). This regulation refers to children who are under 18 years, which is a fraction of the broader group of youths as defined by the Law of Youth (16-30 years).

Regulations encourage youths to take initiatives and contribute to breakthroughs in innovation, but these are still limited to entrepreneurial activities. Government Regulation No. 41/2021 encourages youth involvement in the form of written input during the planning stages of entrepreneurial activities and the development of technical innovations, and stipulates the provision of youth infrastructure and facilities. In addition, this regulation also facilitates the involvement of youth organizations in the supervision of youth infrastructure and facilities.

Efforts to increase the capacity of communities and youths, especially in terms of leadership, are also regulated through education programs. Law No. 20/2003 and Government Regulation No. 17/2010 contain a provision on youth education that is provided through various non-formal education programs to prepare cadres of national leaders, such as in vocational institutions, community learning activity centers, and through Quran studies. In addition, youth education can be integrated with job training programs and equivalency education programs.

¹³ Indonesian Center for Environmental Law, *ibid*

¹⁴ Youth is various things related to the potential, responsibility, rights, character, capacity, self-actualization, and aspirations of youth (Article 1(2) of Law Number 40 of 2009).

7.3 Policies Related to Community Participation in Climate and Environmental Issues

There are few specific policies related to climate and environmental issues that explicitly mention youth participation; policies mostly address participation of the general public. By considering youths as part of society, this policy review also analyzes the rules concerning community participation in various regulations related to climate and environmental issues. This review groups climate and environmental issues into three categories, namely: 1) Mitigation of Climate Change and Environmental Damage, 2) Environmental Conservation Efforts, and 3) Land Management for Mining Activities.

Mitigation of Climate Change and Environmental Damage

The commitment to involve communities in efforts to address climate change has been included in various global agendas.

The Paris Agreement of the COP-21 in 2015 stipulated efforts to facilitate and increase community participation in the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). NDC itself is a form of commitment by every country that agreed to the Paris Agreement on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and controlling climate change. In addition, at the Bonn Climate Change Conference in 2017 there was a proposal to have a youth representative as one of the national delegates, which means that, for the first time, the idea of a *youth delegate* was raised as being important to the issue of climate change.

In Indonesia, these global commitments are adopted and regulated through various policies. Law No. 16/2016 mentions that participation and access to political information need to be considered by parties who work together in the national implementation of policies in the field of climate change and environmental conservation. Furthermore, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry issued an NDC Implementation Strategy document in 2017 describing nine NDC implementation programs that contain elements of community participation, such as facilitation of capacity building and community awareness as well as participation in NDC planning and implementation activities. The government also issued the Strategic Plan of the Directorate General of Climate Change Control for 2020-2024 along with the issuance of Presidential Regulation No. 98/2021, which opens up space for participation through SAKIP (Government Agency Performance Accountability System) to encourage public participation in the monitoring of government performance.

There are already several regulations that facilitate community involvement in adaptation actions toward climate change and

that encourage the submission of complaints on environmental damage. Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 33/2016 states that one of the elements of its working group is an independent non-profit institution that is formed by the community or the general public and that pays attention to issues related to climate change mitigation as well as that a representative of the local community must participate in the preparation of climate change adaptation actions. Law No. 18/2013, Government Regulation No. 4/2001, and Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 32/2016, mention the establishment of a forum for community involvement in efforts to overcome environmental damage as well as the in the prevention and control of forest and land fires through the Fire Care Community group and the Village Assistance Team. The regulation also mentions that capacity building efforts will be provided to these groups through education and training, by increasing understanding of related regulations, and by providing incentives to assist forest fire control activities. Meanwhile, Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 22/2017 explains that complaints about environmental and forest damage can be made by individuals, groups of people, legal entities, or government agencies either directly – by visiting the secretariat of complaints/dedicated complaint offices – or indirectly through the platform that is provided to file a complaint.

The government encourages community involvement to strengthen its adaptation capacity to the impacts of climate change through the Climate Village Program (ProKlim). Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 84/2016 and the Regulation of the Director General of Climate Change Control No. P.4/PPI.6/3/2021 mention that local communities have the right to legal support and the provision of facilities by the government to be able to carry out ProKlim. Through ProKlim, the community and their representatives can directly design, implement, and carry out monitoring activities related to the climate and their surrounding environment.

Environmental Conservation Efforts

A commitment to protecting the environment through community participation is included in the global agenda. The Paris Agreement document underscores the urgency of ensuring integration between ecosystems, including the oceans, and the protection of biodiversity in efforts to tackle climate change. The agreement was adapted to the Indonesian context and implemented using gender responsive, participatory, and transparent principles.

In the national context, various regulations recognize the importance of community participation in environmental conservation and management efforts. Law No.32/2009 and Government Regulation No. 22/2021 contain participatory principles on the protection and management of the environment. Law No. 5/1990 and Law No. 37/2014 state that it is necessary to increase the participation of the community in the conservation of natural resources through education and counseling. Communities can also be involved in conservation efforts and gain capacity building to empower themselves in planning, funding, or monitoring, and communities can also file claims regarding soil and water conservation.

Regulations also encourage community capacity building in terms of the environment at the subnational level. Law No. 23/2014 states that the local government has the authority to provide education, training, and environmental education for community institutions at their respective levels. For example, on the issue of watershed management (DAS), Government Regulation no. 37/2012 regulates capacity building efforts for communities in watershed management. The community also has the right to obtain information regarding assistance and capital assistance in watershed management. This form of participation is not limited to certain groups or forums, but individual communities can also participate.

Every individual has a right to legal protection and information transparency in their efforts to protect the environment. Government Regulation No. 22/2021 mentions the right to legal protection for everyone who seeks to protect the environment, especially affected communities such as vulnerable groups, indigenous peoples, and women. In addition, Law No. 32/2009 emphasizes the need for transparency of information for business actors as well as for activities that are related to environmental management and protection. Furthermore, Government Regulation No. 46/2016 emphasizes that public participation and information disclosure are important parts of the Strategic Environmental Assessment report.

The involvement of young people in environmental conservation efforts is encouraged through the Scout Movement, Adiwiyata, and the Movement for Care and Culture of the Environment in Schools (PBLHS). As a youth organization regulated by the government through Law no. 12/2010, the Scout Movement explicitly mentions environmental preservation as one of its goals. Meanwhile, Adiwiyata is an award given by the government to schools that have succeeded in carrying out environmental care activities (Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 53/2019). Meanwhile, Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 52/2019 on PBLHS states that youths can be involved more broadly in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages.

The government agenda for environment conservation encourages the institutionalization of various forms of community participation. Through Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 60/2015, the government regulates the roles of the community in protecting and managing the environment, one of which involves organizing scouting and pioneering activities for younger generations, such as Saka Kalpataru, Saka Wanabakti, conservation cadres, and excursions by groups of nature lovers. Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. 9/2021 concerning Social Forestry Management¹⁵ regulates the role of civil society as well as environmental volunteers through social forestry management working groups (Pokja PPS) and recipients of social forestry management rights. The scope of this regulated role of the community includes, among other aspects, assisting in capacity building and planning, business development, and fostering social forestry management.

Land Management for Mining Activities

Several efforts to encourage community involvement in the mitigation of the adverse impacts of mining activities are found in the regulations that were analyzed. Law no. 4/2009 and Government Regulation No. 96/2021 state that community involvement needs to be facilitated by the central and local governments by managing community conflicts due to mining activities, by developing and increasing community participation, and by handling complaints about environmental damages that result from mining activities. In addition, there is an article regarding the protection of the community against the negative impacts of mining activities. Furthermore, Government Regulation No. 5/2021 states that the community can play a role in conducting risk analysis by providing input, data, information, and by increasing awareness among business actors.

¹⁵ Social Forestry is a sustainable forest management system implemented in state forest areas or private forest/customary forests carried out by local communities or customary law communities as the main actors to improve their welfare, environmental balance, and socio-cultural dynamics in the form of village forests, community forests, community plantation forests, customary forests, and forestry partnerships (Article 1 verse 1 Permen LHK No. 9/2021)

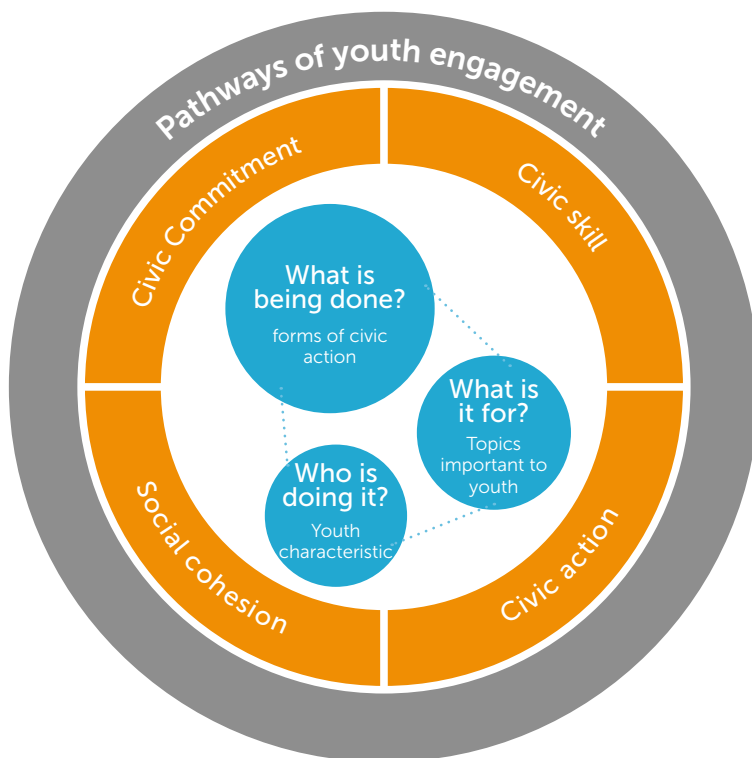


Discussion

In this section as well as in the conclusions and recommendations section, this study highlights its findings and puts them in a larger context by discussing the implications of what we have learned from the data so far. In interpreting the results of this study, we will use concepts that have guided the study from the onset, such as youth and dimensions of civic engagement. In addition, we will discuss the results by looking at several related studies that were not included in the literature review because they were only published recently but that are nonetheless highly relevant, and we will also employ concepts that emerged as we interacted with the data. Overall, we will discuss the results of this study by constantly comparing what our initial assumptions were regarding the main question of the study with what we found in the data.

8.1 Discussing the Landscape of Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

Diagram 2. Discussion Guide on the Landscape of Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues



The diagram was developed by the research team.

The dotted lines do not represent casual relationships but rather visualize interconnectedness between variables.

Certain groups of youths are already involved with various dimensions of civic engagement.

Although this study limited the age range to 16-30 years old in defining “youth” and in the recruitment of study participants, youth participants tend to interpret “youth” as a phase of life, such as being part of a group of students or young workers, or as being part of an action, such as partaking in youth activism.

This finding is in line with the generational approach proposed by Huijsmans (2016). An aspect of this approach is to consider the concept of youth as ‘phase of life’ beyond chronological age as well as a collective social identity that defines youth groups.

Seen through a generational lens, the category of youth becomes synonymous with its civic commitment. In this study, youths’ civic commitment to climate and environmental issues is attributed mainly to the influence of global activism, which is characterized by youth leaders such as Greta Thunberg with her

school strike for climate¹⁶ as well as student engagements in international climate and environment forums. There are also those who attribute climate activism to the influence of certain fields of study and social networks, especially for university students.

Youths with access to education, employment, resources, networks, and who have attachments to their regions as well as specific experiences with environmental impact have their own civic skills that shape their engagement in the climate and environmental movement. Civic skills tend to be more prominent among students and young workers who have greater access to civic knowledge and opportunities for participation.

¹⁶ The School Strike for Climate, also known as Fridays for Future (FFF), Youth for Climate, Climate Strike, or Youth Strike for Climate, is an international movement of school students who skip classes on Fridays to participate in demonstrations demanding action from political leaders to prevent climate change and that the fossil fuel industry switches to renewable energy. The movement was started by Greta Thunberg, a Swedish student activist who staged a climate-related protest in front of the Swedish parliament in August 2018.

Civic commitment and skills were also found to be more prominent among youths from the middle economic class and those living in urban areas. The predominance of urban areas may be related to the presence of students who attend university in cities, which is also related to the existence of economic classes that tend to be wealthier. The findings on the various forms of civic action illustrate that some activities can be costly, which are therefore only accessible to those who can afford them. Moreover, civic skills also appear to be facilitated by educational background and access to information and digital technology.

Despite coming from various backgrounds and having various interests, youths who end up in youth communities share common forms of social capital. Putnam, in a report by the National Research Council (2014), categorizes social capital into two types: bridging social capital and bonding social capital. Bridging social capital emerges as a shared interest that transcends ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. The experience of being affected by climate and environmental crises as well as sharing the same concerns have led to group solidarity among youth activist movements. Bonding social capital is found among more homogeneous groups, such as student communities, young Muslims, or the BTS Army fandom. Both these forms of social capital support social cohesion in youth civic action.

Social cohesion is also created by cooperation, communication, and collaboration within a community or organization. The concept of social cohesion also encourages the improvement of youths' civic skills. This study finds that freedom

of speech and solidarity are characteristics of youth interactions that are maintained within youth communities. Because of the opportunity to freely express their opinions, youths can continue to practice their skills and strengthen their commitment by participating in FGDs and community activities. In relation to civic skills, capacity-building activities through networking and alliances can also be seen as efforts to improve civic skills and improve social cohesion.

This study confirms the notion that, despite the emergence of youth civic engagement in climate and environmental activism in Indonesia, only certain youths have been exposed to this form activism. There are still only few youths with non-formal education backgrounds, from non-urban areas, and with more diverse socioeconomic status, who are active in climate and environmental movements. This includes youths with different abilities, youths with minority identities, representatives of vulnerable or marginalized groups, and those directly exposed to the impact of climate and environmental crises in urban and rural areas.

In terms of engagement among children and adolescents, the Situational Analysis Study of Children and Youth Civic Participation and Engagement in Indonesia (Otarra et al., 2022) found a high interest in participation among boys and girls in both urban and rural areas. Most children and adolescents felt it was important to participate in various activities in their local area, and indicated that they understood the importance of civic engagement. However, the same study found limited levels of civic engagement among adolescents with disabilities.

Youths involved in this study are greatly concerned about the impact of climate and environmental crises, which has manifested itself in various albeit still limited, actions.

Youths seem to care about certain climate and environmental topics, but they also recognize that these topics are not singular issues but instead multidimensional and intersectional issues. Protecting the environment and protecting people who are affected by climate and environmental crises, especially vulnerable groups, requires an intersectional approach. Some refer to this as intersectional environmentalism. Youths who are already engaged are mostly concerned with environmental issues and climate justice, and see this as an important goal because climate and environmental issues have caused inequalities that vulnerable groups disproportionately bear. Vulnerable groups include poor communities, indigenous peoples, women, children, people with disabilities, and other minority groups.

While youths' concerns have expanded to include a wide range of climate and environmental topics, not all of their concerns are equally present in the five forms of civic action identified in this study. Table 1 presents a simple map of the topics that youths care about in relation to existing forms of civic action. Table 1 also maps where youth civic commitment and action tend to be dominant.

Table 1. Map of the intersections between climate and environmental topics and civic engagement found in the study

Topics	Civil Action				
	Capacity Building	Policy Advocacy	Campaigning	Research	Community Assistance and Social Innovation
Climate and Environmental Topics					
Symptoms of climate and environmental crises	Appears in the study	Not yet appeared in the study	Appears in the study	Appears in the study	Not yet appeared in the study
Destructive consequences of climate and environmental crises	Dominantly appears in the study	Appears in the study	Dominantly appears in the study	Not yet appeared in the study	Appears in the study
Drivers of climate and environmental destruction	Appears in the study	Appears in the study	Dominantly appears in the study	Not yet appeared in the study	Appears in the study
Impact of the climate crises to the environment and its mitigation	Dominantly appears in the study	Appears in the study	Dominantly appears in the study	Appears in the study	Dominantly appears in the study
Impact of the climate crises to vulnerable individuals and its mitigation	Appears in the study	Appears in the study	Appears in the study	Appears in the study	Dominantly appears in the study

A gap in civic commitment is observed in the sense that youths' civic action is limited to the topics of the symptoms of climate and environmental crises and the drivers of climate and environmental destruction. The topic of the symptoms of climate and environmental crises tends to be more of a movement-wide goal than the specific focus of particular forms of youth civic action. Youths have been involved in capacity-building actions and campaigns but have not specifically advocated for policies or social innovations in relation to the symptoms of climate and environmental crises, such as climate change, sea level rise, coastal abrasion, etc., even though youths have identified these issues as important topics for the climate and environmental cause. This study has found evidence of policy advocacy efforts at the local level as well as protests against government and company policies. However, more structural drivers from policymakers and service providers have not been widely responded to in the form of civil actions that target systemic changes.

In terms of forms of engagement, capacity-building activities and protest campaigns predominated across all climate and environmental topic categories. Emerging civic actions in the form of capacity building include education and training activities aimed at both youths and the general public. These civic actions aim to address "green" issues that have emerged

primarily around the symptoms and consequences of climate and environmental crises. Closely related to capacity building, campaign actions also predominantly appear in both topics and in both online and offline campaigns.

Community assistance and social innovation also appeared in almost all topic categories, with a dominant portion being concerned with the topic of climate and environmental impacts on the environment and society. The various forms of community assistance and social innovations found in this study include assisting communities affected by land grabs, mobilizing communities to engage in civil action, assisting communities with the mapping of conservation areas, initiating waste management practices, setting up flood warning devices and waste banks, incubating green startups, and supporting traditional education.

Learning from the evidence found by this study and based on our observation of civil society in general, this study offers the below framework to map youth engagement based on the issues that youths want to address, the goals they want to achieve, and the shape and form of their activities. This study, for example, identifies various youth participants who are engaged in capacity building, community assistance, campaigning, and limited levels of advocacy and research.

Table 2. Forms of youth engagement based on situation, goal, and manifestation

	Research	Capacity Building	Advocacy	Community Assistance (Innovations)	Campaigns	Case Work
Situation	We need to understand this	We need to help people to understand this and provide them with certain skills	We need to persuade people to address these problems and change this situation	We need to help this community with this because they can benefit from it	We need to shape their perception/ opinion about this	We need to assist in a dispute resolution (court or non-court)
Goal	To understand	To share	To influence	To help (a community)	To broadcast, to pressure, to express or form an opinion or a behaviour	To represent
Manifestation	Data collection, and Analysis, Knowledge Management	Training, Peer education, Mentoring, Webinar, Seminar, Workshop	Technical Assistance, Lobby	"Pendampingan", Social Innovation, Social Enterprizing, Delivery of Goods/ Practices	Communication, Art, Protest, Behaviour Change Intervention	Legal Aid, Meditation, Case Management, Class Action

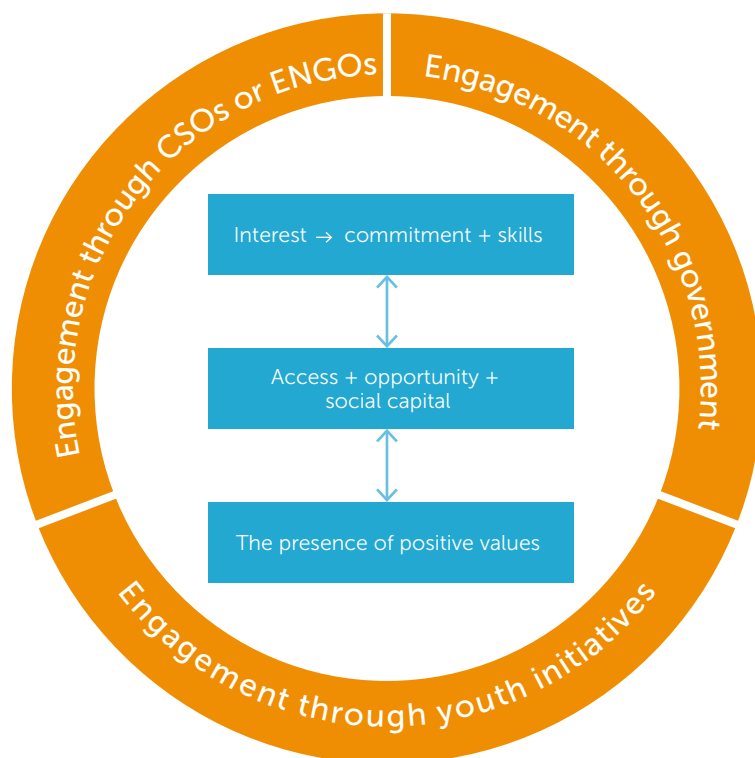
Despite the emergence of youth civic action and commitment, some gaps remain in terms of civic skills; these may have contributed to the map of the various forms of youth civic action presented above.

The gap is most evident in terms of the lack of policy advocacy and research actions. Advocacy that has been carried out is mostly ad hoc and in response to particular cases or specific local policies. In fact, the drivers of climate and environmental destruction identified in this study require more research and advocacy at the system level because these involve questions about the economic impacts of development, industrialization, and consumerism. Furthermore, some communities are already conducting research on several climate and environmental

topics. However, the research agenda itself has not yet become a part of the plans of youth civic action activities and is limited to specific topics that have the support of other parties (i.e., ENGOs/government). In addition, capacity building is still limited to educating the public about climate and environmental issues as well as improving youth organizational capacity and communication, but few efforts have been made toward improving collective decision-making and critical thinking.

The pathway toward youth engagement is a process that involves various interests, which are subsequently translated into civic commitments and civic skills, and these interests also play a role as push and pull factors in youth engagement.

Diagram 3. Discussion Guide on Pathways for Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues



The diagram was developed by the research team.

The dotted lines do not represent casual relationships but rather visualize interconnectedness between variables.

The patterns that have emerged during this study show that the pathway for youth engagement and participation is found to be related to the characteristics of youths' civic skills and forms of civic action. Among the three pathways of youth engagement and involvement that have been mapped out by this study, youths are more comfortable undertaking various forms of civic action in the pathway that is initiated by fellow youths. This could be explained by growth in the freedom of expression as well as the safety and meaningfulness of youth participation.

Youth participation that is initiated by youths themselves has increased, but there are changes in the pattern of involvement. Youths have positioned themselves as one of the main stakeholders in climate and environmental issues, and are more

interested in taking civic action according to the focus of the community movement that they have initiated. Youth interactions in youth-initiated communities are more fluid, and they are strengthened by group solidarity and freedom of speech, which further improves their civic skills. The shift in youth activism to self-initiated community movements is also partly due to youths' desire to break away from the dependence on ENGOs, especially regarding funding and control over activities, and their desire to shift to smaller and more flexible or free types of community-based activism.

While engagement pathways through youth communities are generally preferred, youths participating through CSOs and ENGOs are more likely to have opportunities for increasing their civic skills capacities and are more likely to be exposed to broader forms of civic action. The role of CSOs and ENGOs is dominant as initiators and facilitators of youth civil movements on climate and environmental issues. Some ENGOs recruit youths to join movements that are adopted from models found in other global and national climate and environmental movements, while some youth communities are also formed as derivative versions of certain ENGO movements. Youths who engage in the climate and environmental movement through this pathway tend to be equipped with a more systematic organizational capacity and more well-rounded civic skills, and are better prepared to engage in capacity-building actions across a range of topics. However, such opportunities have yet to link with the more structured mentorship on the bigger picture of climate and environmental work and mobilization of resources.

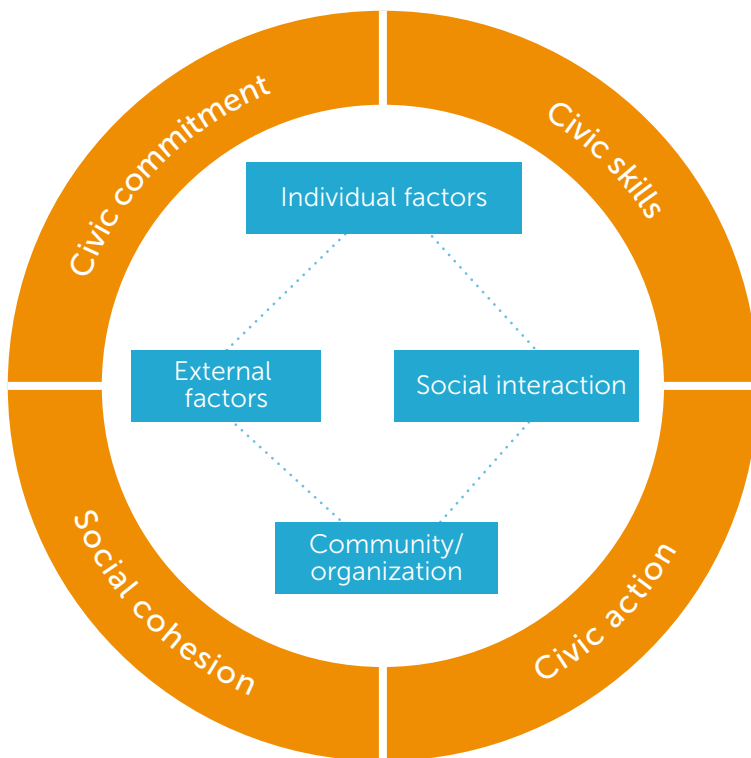
Youths affiliated with ENGOs have more access to training, such as the Non-Violent Direct Action (NVDA) approach, before they start campaigning. Youths involved through Greenpeace, WALHI, or Extinction Rebellion, among others, are more likely to take a hard diplomacy approach because they can rely on good support systems and legal assistance, and because they have national and international networks in place to deal with potential threats to their security and safety. Meanwhile, youth communities with limited support tend to take a softer diplomacy approach in their civic actions. One is not necessarily more effective than the other, and both are complementary in nature.

Meanwhile, evidence of youth involvement and engagement in the climate and environmental movement through the government pathway has been harder to find than for the other two pathways. Unequal power relations were mentioned in many discussions about youth engagement by the government. Youths are often seen as mere participants in various activities, and the government tends to resort to tokenism. Youth engagement with the government is more limited and highly dependent on the specific needs of the government. Moreover, engagement by the government tends to expose youths to threats that further prevent them from participating. Although spaces for participation in government processes are still limited and not widely accessed by youths, Octarra et al. (2022) found that most of the children and adolescents in their study were interested in being involved in decision-making processes in their communities, and that youths still considered it necessary to participate in development planning forums or Musrenbang in their area.

8.2 Discussing the Enablers and Barriers to Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

As shown in Diagram 4, this section elaborates on how enabling factors and barriers interplay in influencing the dimensions of youth civic engagement, including youth civic commitment, youth civic skills, social cohesion, and the likelihood of effective civic action.

Diagram 4. Discussion Guide on Enablers and Barriers to Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues



The diagram was developed by the research team.

The dotted lines do not represent casual relationships but rather visualize interconnectedness between variables.

Youths' civic commitment to engage in activism on climate and environmental issues is mostly influenced by individual factors, which, in turn, are also influenced by social interactions, communities or organizations, and external factors.

Youths' civic commitment as found in this study is most dominantly influenced by individual factors, such as concerns about the current and future impacts of climate and environmental crises, personal experience of being affected, interest and fascination with the issue, identifying as a youth,

availability of free time, previous experience with activism, and religious teachings/beliefs to conserve nature and the environment. However, individual factors such as family support and socioeconomic class also pose challenges to youths for increasing their civic commitment.

Individual factors, especially interest in certain issues and previous experience of engaging in civil actions, are shaped by various social, community or organizational, and external interaction factors. Youths use their social capital to find like-minded friends and to create a sense of solidarity that encourages these friends to remain in the community or movement. Interactions with adults, such as mentors or role models, also incentivizes youths to remain committed to pursue the goal of their activism. The bandwagon effect, or the tendency to follow what is deemed popular by other youths (Eastin et al., 2007), such as the influence of global movements or interactions with public figures or influencers, has encouraged youths to become involved in the climate and environmental movement. Inclusive communities or organizations that provide youths with a space to develop and express themselves are also factors that allow them to maintain their civic commitment.

The relationship between these supporting factors is interpreted differently in the Remotivi Study (2022) than in this study, but both studies are correlated. The Remotivi study found that there are two factors that motivate youths to participate: individual motivations (environmental attitudes) and social motivations (environmental networks). The social motivations referred to in this particular study were dominant as enablers of youths' civic commitment to participating in environmental activism, especially in the case of social media consumption and relationships with NGOs/ ENGOs, which significantly influence youths' individual motivation to participate.

Civic skills are a dimension of civic engagement that tends to become more developed only after youths have become more engaged in civic action. Individual factors and social interactions allow youths' civic skills to improve, but some external factors can also hinder youths' efforts to engage.

Youths' civic skills in this study tend to be supported more by individual, social interaction, and community/organizational factors. An individual's educational background is strongly associated with their abilities and skills to engage in activism. Meanwhile, social interactions with fellow youth communities, ENGOs, government, and other institutions that provide various forms of capacity building, are considered important for supporting youths' civic skills.

The development of information technologies and easy access to online media, especially social media, are external factors that many youths use to improve their civic skills. Remotivi (2022) found that social media is instrumental in improving youths' civic skills by introducing them to information about climate change, shaping their political attitudes, and improving youths' sense of social cohesion. The study also found that youth participants who followed ENGOs on social media tended to be more involved in activism and more inclined to choose jobs that involve environmental considerations.

External factors are the dominant barriers in terms of civic skills. These factors include limited access to information, lack of organizational management capacity, a lack of an enabling environment for developing critical thinking skills, as well as lack of attention to the mental health of young activists involved with climate and environmental issues. All of these factors play a significant role in their ability to exert their civic skills.

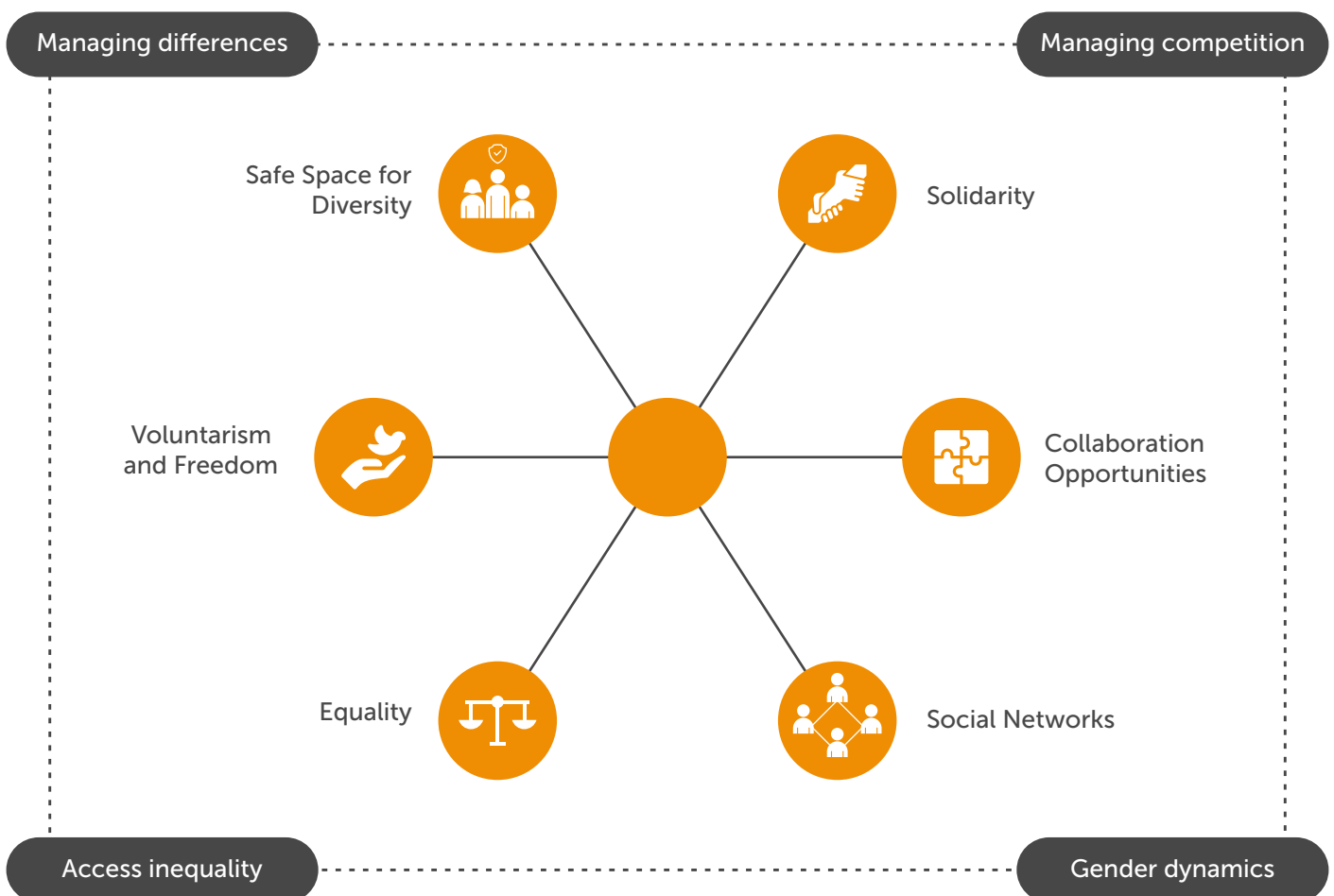
In addition to these external factors, Octarra et al. (2022) highlighted social interactions with adults, especially parents and teachers, as factors that could either inhibit or enable children and adolescents to participate. Adult support for child and adolescent participation was also mentioned by participants from rural area. However, the absence of adult support and of an enabling social environment causes children and adolescents to be more reluctant to express their opinions.

In terms of social cohesion, social interactions are influenced by the community/organization as well as external factors, and are strongly connected to the values that youths identify as positive aspects of their civic engagement. In many instances, these values become pull factors for their engagement or even contribute to their sense of social cohesion.

Youths' social interactions, both with fellow youths and with adult stakeholders, contribute to strengthening the forms of group social capital that bridge and unite them in mobilizing their movements. Social interactions, through various pathways of youth engagement, highlight the presence of positive values which can also contribute to the sense of social cohesion.

Meanwhile, there are also social dynamics that hinder social cohesion, such as fragmented youth communities or organizations, competition among youth activists, inequality of access, and gender dynamics.

Diagram 5. Values that attract youths to participate and engage as well as the challenges involved



Effective civic action depends on the ability of community or organizational, external, and social interaction factors to provide a conducive enabling environment.

Effective civic action is made possible through a conducive enabling environment, which involves access, opportunities, policies, and regulations that support civic engagement. This study finds that the creation of a conducive enabling environment remains hampered by external factors, including policies that do not guarantee safe spaces for participation, government policies that do not support freedom of expression, and tokenistic practices that frequently become obstacles for youth civic action.

However, access to information through technology and media, civic action organizing strategies, and social interactions with youths and stakeholders, have contributed to

diverse forms of civic action as well as opportunities for carrying out civic actions. Access to information and opportunities for youths to be exposed to issues and to take part in civic actions, such as competitions and volunteering, can spark youths' interest in becoming more active in the environmental movement and even provide them with potential careers in the future. Furthermore, financial support and mentorship also encourage the sustainability and success of youth civic action. The more diverse the forms and opportunities for civic action are, the greater the opportunity are for cross-form collaboration which ultimately contributes to the effectiveness of civic action and further strengthens the enabling environment.

8.3 Discussing Policies that have the Potential to Hinder Youth Participation in Efforts to Address Climate and Environmental Issues

Policies that specifically regulate youth involvement were found to have various limitations.

Some regulations have the potential to limit the involvement of youths in certain programs. Regulations governing the role of youths are limited to youth programs or require youths to participate through youth organizations. Law No. 40/2009 concerning Youth states that the role of youths is limited to strategic youth programs. In fact, the involvement of young people is needed not only in the context of special youth programs but also in policy making in general. Other regulations generally recognize youth participation only if it is channeled through youth organizations, for example, as stated in PP No. 41/2011 on entrepreneurship development and Permenpora No. 11/2017.

The involvement of young people as formulated in several regulations still has the potential to be merely tokenistic. For example, Permenpora No. 11/2017 concerning the Development of Youth-Friendly Districts/Cities states that youth participation is only possible during the mentoring (planning) and award

stages, but this does not include the facilitation process, which is the main activity for implementing youth policies that have been planned during the mentoring stage. Another example is the Youth Carnival – regulated through Permenpora No. 3/2018 – which is not specifically aimed at increasing youth participation in policy making. This Kirab activity is still limited to involving young people in youth program activities.

Regulations in the Indonesian education sector facilitate youth education, but these regulations are limited to non-formal education channels. In the education sector, youth education is specifically provided only through non-formal education, which can be in the form of environmental education (UU No. 20/2003 & PP No. 17/2010). In line with that regulation, Permendikbud No. 7/2022 also states that the content of student empowerment materials is optional only in the non-formal education path.

The role of the community, of which young people are a part, is found to be very limited in specific policies related to climate and environmental issues.

Regulations related to climate change mitigation that involve the community are limited only to certain mechanisms and stages. The Minister of Environmental and Forestry Regulation No. 22/2017 states that the government can develop guidance or cooperation guidelines for monitoring the compliance of businesses or activities in the environment and forestry sector together with the community. However, collaboration with the community is optional and can only be done through a specified information system; this approach therefore has the potential of excluding people. Another example is the Climate Village Program, which aims to increase community participation but has not yet managed to involve the community in the monitoring and evaluation stage (Renstra Director General of Climate Change Control 2020-2024).

Both the role and participation of the community in environmental conservation efforts are regulated under strict conditions. Law No. 32/2009 has the potential to hinder community participation because the requirements for environmental organizations to file lawsuits are so complex that they are difficult to fulfill. According to this law's provisions an organization can only file a lawsuit if it is a legal entity, if the articles of the association can confirm that the organization was established for the purpose of preserving environmental functions, and if the organization has carried out real activities in accordance with its articles of association for a minimum of two years. Similar requirements are also seen in Law no. 37/2014, which regulates provisions for organizations that are related to soil and water conservation.

Several regulations were found to frame the community as passive recipients of government programs. The reviewed regulations conceptualize the role of the community as passive recipients of communication as well as information and education (KIE) efforts, such as, for example, stated in the Minister of Environmental and Forestry Regulation No. 75/2019. Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Regulation 26/2018 also states that the role of community participation is limited to that of being recipients of development and empowerment programs, and that community members are not included in various other stages such as planning and evaluation.

The analyzed regulations on climate and environmental issues generally only touched on community participation in an ambiguous manner and lacked technical elaboration. Community involvement in the determination of mining areas in Law No. 3/2020, for example, is only limited to affected communities without an explanation of the consultation mechanism that should be used to actually collect the opinions of the community. In addition, the role of the community in the conservation of natural resources is regulated by the government through Law No. 5/1990, which is limited to efficient and effective activities, and these are not explicitly elaborated upon. Furthermore, PP No. 23/2021 on Forestry Implementation does not contain technical guidelines on how community participation should be carried out. Public involvement is, once again, limited because it is only considered at the planning stage.

8.4 Lessons Learned from Good Practices on Youth Engagement in Climate and Environmental Issues

In accordance with the findings of stage 1, the case study also found that young people who were actively involved in the formation or management of the youth movement could make use of various forms of social capitals, such as access to information, the opportunity to be involved in youth actions, and having skills that could contribute to the movement. Prior to establishing GIDKP, the founders had gained experience by being involved in various youth networks and civil society organizations related to climate and environmental issues. The educational background of one of the founders of GIDKP also contributed to the selection of the strategic focus adopted by GIDKP. Similarly, Jaga Rimba's initiators learned a lot about

organizational and project management through their previous organizational experiences. During that time, Jaga Rimba's initiators observed that discussions about climate and environmental topics were often dominated by those with higher levels of education or who live in urban areas, which made clear that a more inclusive youth movement was needed. A similar pattern was also found in the IYCTC, which was formed after discussions among representatives of youth organizations that focus on tobacco control issues.

This case study finds several pathways of engagement among youths in the climate and environmental movement, particularly among founders and initiators. Their engagement is facilitated through youth communities or through CSOs/ENGOS, which was observed in the findings of stage 1. However, in one movement another entry point was also found, namely through friendship networks and social media. Some of the GIDKP's core team were already involved in other organizations working on climate and environmental issues before joining GIDKP. One of the GIDKP daily administrators had also been actively involved in the broader climate and environmental network since becoming a student. Likewise, Jaga Rimba's initiators, who had previous experience with participating in organizations and activities related to climate and environmental issues, eventually committed to building Jaga Rimba. However, several other members of Jaga Rimba revealed a slightly different approach to involvement, namely through the network of friends surrounding the initiators. Another member of Jaga Rimba indicated that he/she learned about the organization through social media and that he/she had been inspired by its initiators while watching a documentary.

Although initially founded by young people, which makes them very similar to youth movements, the movements in this case study generally did not limit their membership to those aged 30 years or under. Although GIDKP is often considered a youth organization because it was founded and dominated by young people, the recruitment of GIDKP officials is based on competence and does not target youths specifically. Several positions in GIDKP, particularly those involving policy advocacy and direct interaction with the government, were filled by senior and experienced persons. The image of GIDKP as a youth organization is also considered a challenge for moving further in policy advocacy. Although it was created as a forum for young people to collaborate, Jaga Rimba does not have an official recruitment system. Previously, however, Jaga Rimba had several membership requirements including an age requirement that are no longer enforced. Unlike the others movements that were studied, IYCTC has a unique form of membership because of its character as a coalition of various youth organizations, but individual membership is also a possibility as indicated by their efforts to target individual youths specifically.

In this case study, the analysis of the drivers and barriers of youth movements was focused on the organizational level. This is different to the analysis in stage 1 study, which focused on the drivers and barriers on the level of individual involvement.

In the case study, social interaction was found to greatly influence, both positively and negatively, the success of a movement in achieving its change agenda. The support from various stakeholders and partners, as conveyed by all movements in this case study, can strongly supports their activism. For GIDKP, networking with other organizations is very helpful for achieving their goals, and particularly having good relations with government partners, donors, and other stakeholders. This support ranges from the technical side to providing information on developments in issues at the global level. At SCC - Green Camp, positive interactions between managers and participants – through mentoring to the facilitation of relation-building with relevant stakeholders – were observed as being important supports for achieving program goals. In Jaga Rimba, the close friendship among its members is important as a supporting factor for the movement because it strengthens the activeness of its members. Although Jaga Rimba acknowledges the great support they receive from young people outside their community, they also recount instances of being ridiculed and of receiving negative comments from fellow youths, which can pose a challenge. In some situations, the absence of support from adult stakeholders, such as parents and/or schools, and the tokenistic practices of adults can be inhibiting factors for Jaga Rimba.

Various internal factors of the community/organization itself, such as form, structure, organizational management, and funding, were also found to influence efforts to achieve the goals of the movement via alternative means. The movements in the case study that were initiated by younger groups (i.e., Jaga Rimba and IYCTC) tended to have a fluid organizational structure, whereas the movements initiated by more senior youth groups or non-youth groups (i.e., GIDKP and SCC - Green Camp) tended to be more structured. Both GIDKP and SCC - Green Camp have mechanisms in place for planning, documenting, and measuring achievements that are determined from the start and carried out regularly. Meanwhile, Jaga Rimba and IYCTC prefer flexibility in the division of tasks and in determining activities because they are considered to facilitate the movement and its sustainability. However, the findings on one of the movements also show that internal guidelines, such as articles of association, work standards, or other guidelines, increased the credibility of this movement. Limited funding is an issue discussed by all movements in this case study, and some highlight the various dynamics that occur with funders, such as demands to be more structured or to reduce flexibility in work.

All case study participants conveyed that there were external factors, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the lack of understanding among young people and the community regarding environmental issues, that hindered them in achieving their change agenda. Almost all movements in this case study considered the COVID-19 pandemic to have hampered activism, especially in activities that require face-to-face meetings. In addition, the varying levels of understanding among members of the movement as well as the general public about the environmental issues that movements focus on are also seen as obstacles for movements to carry out their change agendas.

In one of the movements, the individual character or prominence of one of the initiators is an important factor. One of the main initiators of Jaga Rimba plays a major role in attracting young people to the community and in mobilizing Jaga Rimba activities. The magnitude of the influence of this initiator was acknowledged by other members of Jaga Rimba who were inspired by the initiatives that she has undertaken. However, the presence of this strong character can also have a negative impact because the sustainability of the movement can become dependent on this figure.

The participants in this case study interpret success in various and dynamic ways, which goes hand in hand with the development of organizational strategies for achieving their goals. Most of GIDKP's successes have been achieved through policy advocacy efforts that resulted in single-use plastic restrictions being implemented in several regions, although

there have also been other achievements in terms of their educational and collaborative strategies. In quantitative terms, SCC – Green Camp sees the number of campaigns that its participants have successfully launched as an achievement, but, in qualitative terms, the manager also notes that the program's objectives to become a forum for networking and collaboration have also been achieved. Meanwhile, the biggest achievement for Jaga Rimba is that they have succeeded in increasing the number of discussions related to indigenous peoples' issues on social media. For IYCTC, the Guideline to Meaningful Youth Participation in Tobacco Control Issues (P3KT) is the biggest achievement because this document is not only a reference for various organizations, but also a means for increasing the bargaining power of coalitions in the eyes of stakeholders.

The case study also observes a pattern in the interrelationships between organizational structure and the way in which a movement measures its results. GIDKP and SCC – Green Camp, which are managed under a more structured organizational form, have their own plans and indicators of success that are compiled regularly and that are used to monitor the progress and achievements of the various approaches taken. Meanwhile, movements that have a fluid form of membership, such as Jaga Rimba, do not have a way of measuring success that is specifically stipulated in organizational documents. Jaga Rimba measures success through members' perceptions of what the movement has accomplished. Meanwhile, IYCTC, which operates organically, has not seen the need to measure its results in a structural way.



Conclusions and Recommendations

1 This study finds that each form of youth civic action in the climate and environmental movement tends to remain in its own silo, and that most civic actions are carried out at a community scale and that they have therefore not yet managed to achieve systemic change. Responding to these issues, stakeholders¹⁷ can provide proportional support in comprehensive civic action.

- Stakeholders can work with youths in promoting various forms of comprehensive youth civic action according to the youth group's specialization, the scope of issues, and youths' capacities.
- While supporting dominant forms of civic action, such as capacity-building efforts, campaigns and protests, as well as community assistance and case work, stakeholders can also complement youth civic action by facilitating research and policy advocacy on the same issues.
- Proportional support in various forms of civic action can help youth civic action achieve systemic change and make climate and environmental activism efforts more sustainable.

2 This study finds that youth civic engagement efforts are still limited in their ability to reach vulnerable youths. Another challenge is the gap between the existing civic skills and the different needs and conditions of various youths. Stakeholders can provide safe spaces for participation as well as adaptive and inclusive support for increasing youths' civic skills according to their needs and characteristics. Some support in terms of structural factors, such as technological developments and the use of creative media, can be utilized to fill this gap.

- Stakeholders should be more adaptive and inclusive in engaging youths in the climate and environmental movement by adjusting to the conditions and characteristics of youths as well as ongoing technological developments and evolving methods of action.
- The space for youth engagement can be made more inclusive by minimizing barriers to youth participation, especially for vulnerable groups, including disadvantaged, disabled and other minority groups.
- Stakeholders can expand channels for youths from vulnerable groups to engage and provide input and feedback to their fellow youth activist.
- Stakeholders also need to consider ease of access so that vulnerable groups can engage in climate and environmental activism according to their capacity while also mitigating the risk of stigma and discrimination that vulnerable groups often experience during their involvement in civic action.
- As technology evolves, stakeholders should also invest in digital literacy and engage influential figures in supporting youth activism through social media to reach youths more easily in general.
- Furthermore, investment also needs to be made in creating spaces for participation that can specifically accommodate groups with difficulty accessing digital networks.

¹⁷ Stakeholders include government agencies, ENGOs, CSOs, youth organizations, and other civil society groups that are engaged with issues beyond climate and environmental activism.

- Mass media, both traditional and online, can also help disseminate accessible information related to youth engagement options.
- Stakeholders can actively engage youths to adaptively assess their civic skills needs and to determine which ones are important to improve. For example, youth participants proposed that enhancing critical thinking skills could start with changes to the education curriculum.
- Meanwhile, training on effective advocacy, campaigning, and lobbying techniques to encourage successful activism should be directed at the college student age group.
- The study also finds a need to upskill indigenous youths in indigenous land management for their activism toward environmental justice. These different needs can be accommodated by involving indigenous youths in the early stage of identifying the capacities that are needed.
- Intergenerational dialogue spaces can be built to understand the various perspectives of youths and adults in order to fill the gaps in existing youth civic actions.
- Stakeholders can seek to better understand the creative methods employed by youths in responding to climate and environmental issues.
- As knowledge evolves, the development of youth civic action methods may differ from the methods employed by youths in the past. These increasingly creative forms of civic action are one of the factors that can attract other youths to climate and environmental activism.

3 The study finds that social capital is an enabler of civic engagement that can strengthen youths' civic commitment and be useful for reaching out to other youth groups. Stakeholders can utilize the various existing forms of social capital to expand access and create opportunities for youth engagement.

- Bridging social capital (such as having the same experience of being affected, being concerned, and anxious about climate and environmental issues) and binding social capital (related to social identities such as student status, indigenous youth, followers of certain religions/beliefs, fanbases) can foster group solidarity and further unite youths to take civil action on climate and environmental issues.
- Stakeholders can promote bridging social capital to expand youth participation.
- Meanwhile, binding social capital can be used as an opportunity to reach out to various identity-based youth groups that have not yet been reached.

4 The study finds limited incentives for youth activists to collaborate with other activists outside their organizations or communities. Meanwhile, inter-organizational collaborations are essential for the expansion and deepening of networks, improving knowledge exchange, mobilizing funding prospects, and creating green jobs. Stakeholders need to support and encourage forms of collaboration that can expand incentives for youth engagement.

- Stakeholders need to encourage collaboration and cooperation among youth communities while also supporting the potential specialization of each youth community.
- Stakeholders should begin to identify the diverse initiatives and foci of youth community movements and invest in strengthening their specializations with organizational or other skills if needed.
- Furthermore, stakeholders should provide incentives by creating spaces or communication forums where youth environmental activists can connect on various climate and environmental issues as well as other social issues.
- The existence of networking spaces or forums at the national and regional levels will help youths build and expand group solidarity, expand funding opportunities, and increase potential cooperation activities so that their various civic actions do not overlap and so that youths can achieve common goals in preventing the impacts of climate crises while preserving the environment.

5 The study notes the need to strengthen governance capacity in response to internal challenges within the youth community. Stakeholders should support the creation of learning spaces and invest in organizational development within youth communities through the transfer of knowledge, experience, and good practices in community organizing, and stakeholders should also create learning spaces for organizational practices and policymaking.

- Without intervening in youth decision-making, stakeholders can share a range of organizational knowledge and experience that can strengthen youth civic skills in the community, including funding processes and monitoring and evaluation processes that have not been mentioned much in discussions with youths.
- Stakeholders should also provide real learning opportunities in the form of mentorship, either within or outside youth communities, or provide learning spaces for internship programs or for positions for youth workers in organizations/ ENGOs and government institutions.
- Stakeholders can pave the way for the youth movement to expand its networks, either with the aim of strengthening the movement's advocacy efforts or of mobilizing the resources needed to carry out activism. The role of facilitation and providing support needs to be carried out proportionally, must carefully avoid cooptation of the movement, and provide space for young people to determine their own needs, especially when networking and collaborating with other parties.

- Experiences and interactions in these spaces can provide incentives for youths to remain engaged in their activism.
 - Stakeholders should provide support for the increasing involvement of younger generations in climate and environmental activism. Senior youth activists can also provide opportunities for junior youths to be more meaningfully involved in activities beyond that of passive beneficiaries or participants.
 - Stakeholders need to understand the various forms of organizational structure and working methods that are adopted by youth movements for carrying out their activism. For example, their structure and division of labor are often fluid, dynamic, and voluntary. Collaboration with youth movements can be more effective if stakeholders carefully consider the specific forms of governance employed by these youth movements.
 - Funding support provided to youth movements by donor agencies, both direct or mediated by CSOs, needs to take into account their aspirations, agendas for change, and the capacity of young people to collaborate. Each form of funding must include efforts toward mentoring and institutional strengthening of the youth movement so that it can be more accountable and mobilize funding in the long term.

6 As found by this study, tokenistic practices, especially in policy making, are a challenge to youth engagement. Stakeholders should encourage open leadership in government and non-government institutions that can accommodate youth civic engagement.

- Institutional leaders need to ensure that policies that support civic engagement are in place at their institutions and that these can be applied to ensure youths' safety in their activism. Policies that need to be further ensured and safeguarded include regulations that guarantee civil rights pertaining to the freedom of expression, and regulations on the organization as well as protection of individual security, data, identity, and privacy, for both offline and online activism.
- Government and non-government institutions can openly accommodate more youth civic engagement by ensuring the formulation and implementation of supportive policies, providing necessary support, and through the simplification of youth engagement systems and procedures.
- Leaders of institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, should be more open to considering youth input and to acknowledging youths as partners in formulating government policies and programs related to climate and environmental issues. The government, in particular, can provide a roadmap for guiding youths toward participation and providing contributions.
- In addition to providing supportive policies, institutional leaders also need to provide resource allocation, infrastructure, governance, participatory systems, and procedures to create a more meaningful civic engagement environment. Institutional leaders should be able to fill the gap in power relations by proportionately considering the inclusion of youths in decision-making processes without also requiring them to provide solutions.

7 The study finds that freedom of expression and a safe environment for participation are still not comprehensively ensured by stakeholders. Youth civic action on climate and environmental issues tends to focus on less risky topics in order to ensure the protection of their civil right to participate. Meanwhile, youths' civic action on climate and environmental issues that are more structural in nature tend to be more limited due to concerns about threats to their civil rights. Government and non-government stakeholders need to support the fulfillment of youth civil rights, including the freedom of expression and the creation of a safe environment for participation.

- Stakeholders need to work together to ensure that youth civil rights are upheld during their involvement in climate and environmental activism. These rights include fair and safe access to information, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and participation in decision-making processes.
- In particular, the government needs to immediately ensure the formulation of policies that protect youth civil action at the national and regional levels, including policies to prevent the criminalization of youths who voice opinions as well as policies that ensure data and privacy protection, protection of individual security, and transparent procedures for handling cases.
- To ensure that civil rights can be fulfilled, government and non-government decision-makers also need to invest in expanding access to information on various climate and environmental issues, provide resources to support safe spaces for civic action, and provide legal aid to youths to fully exercise their civil rights on climate and environmental issues. With the opportunity of free expression, youths can continue to practice their skills and continue to strengthen their civic commitment to addressing systemic problems that play a significant role in preventing climate and environmental crises.

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Appendices

Appendix 1. Participants of Primary Data Collection

Table 1. List of Participants in Consultation/FGD and KII

Primary Data Collection Method	Total Participants	Number of Female Participants	Number of Male Participants	Participant Background
Youth Expert Consultation	7	3	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Youths aged 27-29 b. Have a track record of working with or being actively involved in social and environmental issues in the last 4-10 years, either individually or within a community. c. Equal representation of young experts working in media, think tanks, communities, donor agencies, and civil society organizations concerned with social, climate, and environmental issues.
Non-Youth/Adult Expert Consultation	9	5	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have a track record of actively working on or being actively involved in youth engagement issues as well as social and environmental issues in the last 5-10 years. b. Equal representation of civil society organizations, media, and think tanks.
FGD	28	16	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FGD Representing National Initiatives FGD Representing National and International Initiatives FGD Representing National and Regional Initiatives FGD Representing National and Regional Initiatives FGD Representing Older Youths/19-22 years old FGD Representing Young Adolescents/16-18 years old
KII	14	8	6	Representatives from K-POP fanbases, youth communities, national and local governments, civil society organizations, and think tanks.

Table 2. Case study informants by type

Case study informants by type	Participants by type		
	Type A	Type B	Type C
GIDKP	3	2	2
Jaga Rimba	5	3	-
SCC	1		1
IYCTC	1		1

Table 3. Case study informants by gender and age group

Informants by gender	
Male	5
Female	13
Informants by age	
17–21 years old	9
22–30 years old	3
>30 years old	6

Appendix 2. Case Study Selection and Data Collection

Type 1 Movement

Indonesia Plastic Bag Diet Movement (GIDKP)

The Indonesia Plastic Bag Diet Movement (Gerakan Indonesia Diet Kantong Plastik) is a non-profit organization that seeks to achieve "Indonesia Free of Plastic Bags" by encouraging people to be more cautious with using plastic bags and other disposable plastics. In 2016, GIDKP pushed to establish "Plastic Bags Are Not Free" trials in 23 areas and succeeded in reducing plastic bag consumption by 55 percent. The trial was a follow-up to GIDKP's petition #Pay4Plastic, which was supported by over 70,000 people on change.org.

Reasoning

Gerakan Indonesia Diet Plastic Bags (GIDKP) has established a good reputation among pro-climate and environmental activists as well as among other groups that are not directly affiliated with the climate and environmental cause. In the phase 1 study, both government and non-governmental representatives frequently mentioned GIDKP as one of the movements that has been "successful" in driving social change. GIDKP has a fairly long history of building movements at the national and regional levels, including achieving success in terms of encouraging changes in policy and community behavior regarding the use of single-use plastics.

Jaga Rimba

Aksi Mogok Sekolah untuk Hutan (School Strike for Forests) is a movement initiated by young individuals from Jaga Rimba to demand rights for indigenous people who have been affected by the activities of geothermal renewable energy businesses. In addition to the school strike, Jaga Rimba has also organized campaigns and protests in the form of petitions and fundraising activities on social media using the hashtag #SaveKinipan, which managed to gather 60,000 signatures. Jaga Rimba, as a representative of Indonesian youths, has successfully promoted the protection of indigenous people's rights among international movements through actions such as Fridays for Future Indonesia. Jaga Rimba has regularly organized discussions and school strikes, both offline and online (particularly during the pandemic), together with fellow youths. Currently, Jaga Rimba is part of an alliance of young people engaged in climate and environmental issues such as Extinction Rebellion.

Reasoning

During the phase 1 study, informants from Jaga Rimba mentioned several challenges related to advocacy efforts toward climate justice that were interesting to discuss further in the case study. Jaga Rimba is managed by its initiator together with a group of youth activists. Its activities are based on the principle of management without hierarchy and the organization is financed directly by young people (self-funded). The movements that were organized by Jaga Rimba also gained a lot of national and global attention. Jaga Rimba is also affiliated with the global movement Fridays for Future.

Type 2 Movement

She Creates Change (SCC) Program

She Creates Change - Green Camp is a training program that brings together women change-makers from various regions of Indonesia to work together as well as inspire and support each other, especially in organizing environmental campaigns. The program was initiated by Change.org, a non-profit organization known for pushing public initiatives in the form of petitions for social change, specifically on the level of policy. Change.org launched the SCC program on October 24-28, 2019, to provide support for women who are driving changes in campaigns for the environment.

Reasoning

Unlike other case study participants, SCC is a program initiated by a non-youth organization (change.org) that specifically caters to young women. The initiators and others involved in the program have interesting ideas about youth engagement strategies and engagement paths as well as about how to promote agendas of change.

Type 2 Movement

Indonesia Youth Council on Tobacco Control (IYCTC)

The Indonesian Youth Council for Tobacco Control (IYCTC) was established on February 20, 2021. The coalition aims to encourage the participation of various groups of young people in the issue of tobacco control in Indonesia. IYCTC arose from a shared awareness that the issue of tobacco or cigarette control was not merely a health issue; there are also economic, social, and even cultural dimensions that need to be addressed. Therefore, the collaboration of young people from various backgrounds is necessary to deal with the issue of tobacco control in Indonesia. The establishment of IYCTC was agreed upon during a virtual deliberation attended by 50 representatives of young people from 43 organizations and communities in 20 cities throughout Indonesia.

Reasoning

Although relatively new, various IYCTC member organizations have been successful in encouraging policy change and public mobilization. For example, the FCTC for Indonesia movement aims to rally community to push the Government of Indonesia to sign the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). Several of its member organizations are based in various regions of Indonesia and they also campaign for issues other than tobacco control, including climate and environmental issues. Although IYCTC does not belong to the group of organizations that were involved in the phase 1 study, one of its founders is involved in the expert consultations that represented other organizations.

The process of collecting data in this case study was carried out through desk research and in-depth interviews. In the initial stage, desk research was conducted to obtain a brief description of the organization's profile, background of establishment, achievements and success stories, as well as documentation on the development and management of the organization/community. The results of this desk research were used to elaborate the interview instrument so that it could better capture the characteristics and special situations of each organization/community in the study.

Desk research was carried out through online searches for various publications about each organization, reports and articles published by the organization/community, videos of their activities, and broadcasts by members of the organization/community. While conducting interviews, the research team also directly asked informants for relevant documents. This information, once obtained, was added to the existing database.

Furthermore, in-depth interviews were generally conducted individually or in groups via Zoom/Google Meet, but some were also conducted via WhatsApp/WA or phone calls. In-depth interviews in relation to type 1 movements were conducted with a maximum of 15 people per organization/community. Meanwhile, in-depth interviews with members of type 2 movements were conducted with a maximum of two informants per organization/community.

Interview informants are divided into three types, namely:

- Type A (internal-structural) informant: an individual who has information about the history of the establishment of the organization, vision and mission of the organization, program overview, work strategy, and direction of organization/community development. This type of informant includes the organization's co-leaders/coordinators, project managers, and advisors.
- Type B (internal-technical) informant: an individual who has detailed and technical information about programs, activities, work strategies, including on the challenges and recommendations for strengthening organizational governance going forward. This type of informant includes administrators, members of organizations/communities/alliances, program/project staff.
- Type C (external) informant: an individual outside the organization who has information relevant to the research question. This type of informant includes beneficiaries, partners, and alumni.

Each interview was conducted by two researchers. One person was in charge of guiding the interview and another person was in charge of recording and synthesizing the process of the interview and its results into field notes. Each interview session lasted approximately 60-90 minutes on average, and it was usually possible to conduct follow-up interviews. Upon completion of each of interview, the research team, together with the project manager and the co-principal investigator of the case study, conducted a debrief to reflect on the process of the interview and its results as well as to determine the direction of the next interview (informant, topic, and interview questions).

Appendix 3. Case Study Findings

Case study findings for each youth organization/community are outlined in the following sections: (i) a brief description of the organization/community, (ii) forms of civic engagement, (iii) pathways of civic engagement, (iv) youth engagement strategies, (v) enabling and inhibiting ecosystems, and (vi) key achievements and lessons learned. There are important differences in the depth and level of information that was obtained about type 1 organizations (main case studies) and type 2 organizations (complementary case studies), which have strongly influenced the level of information contained in each section

Indonesia Plastic Bag Diet Movement (GIDKP)

Brief Description: Goals, Challenges, and Approaches

GIDKP started as an initiative led by various institutions and individuals that aimed to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags.

In 2010, a civil society organization focused on sustainable production and consumption piloted a program in which customers at a convenience store in Bandung had to pay for single-use plastic bags (previously they could obtain these for free). In 2013, GIDKP founders started a petition to urge modern retailers to stop giving plastic bags to their customers for free. Because the petition received growing support from other parties, the founders decided to organize a meeting with the supporters of the petition. This meeting resulted in several collaborations, and the coalition eventually proposed to raise the issue of reducing plastic waste in a more systematic manner. The process also involved discussions with retailers, consumers, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK) about the problem of plastic waste from their respective points of view.

To solve the problem of plastic waste systematically, the initial supporters of the petition subsequently agreed to establish the organization that is now known as the Indonesia Plastic Bag Diet Movement.

In 2014, GIDKP officially obtained legal entity status with the primary mission of drastically changing people's behavior in terms of single-use plastics. An informant, who is one of the cofounders and director of GIDKP (since 2016), explained that climate and environmental problems are complex and layered, but also that the plastic bag issue is unique because plastic bags are designed to be disposable. According to the informant, approximately 50 percent of all plastic bags in the world today have been produced only in the last 15 years. As a result, plastic pollution has become a serious problem.

The movement decided to tackle the issue of plastic waste from the supply side (i.e., intervening before plastic turns into waste) as opposed to a demand-side approach (i.e., intervening once plastic has turned into waste). These interventions are made through social campaigns and policy advocacy to curb the use of disposable plastic bags.

Before the informant served as the director, the GIDKP secretariat was held by its founding institution. At that time, the main approach that GIDKP employed to achieve their mission was public education. However, according to other informants, it was difficult to measure the impact of this approach. Based on the lessons learned, GIDKP began pivoting their approach toward policy advocacy.

To complement policy advocacy, GIDKP also implements education and cooperation activities to achieve the organization's mission. In terms of policy advocacy, GIDKP works closely and intensively with local governments to draft and implement policies or regulations that restrict the use of disposable plastic bags. In terms of education, the organization's main activities include social campaigns and capacity strengthening exercises that target young people. Meanwhile, in terms of cooperation activities, GIDKP works both with modern retailers and traditional markets to reduce single-use plastic bag consumption.

According to an informant working at the technical level (type B informant), there is a link between educational and advocacy approaches. Prior to (or parallel with) conducting advocacy, it is also necessary to engage with the public through campaigns and educational activities to prepare them for the moment when the policies that are being advocated for are published or become applicable.

Forms of Civic Engagement

GIDKP's form of civic engagement is carried out within a framework that consists of three approaches: policy advocacy, education, and cooperation.

Each policy advocacy activity with local governments has a different approach depending on the context of the region. In Jakarta, for example, GIDKP assisted the provincial government with the preparation and implementation of Governor Regulation No.142 of 2019 on the Requirement for the Use of Eco-Friendly Shopping Bags in Shopping Centers, Supermarkets and Traditional Markets. Similarly, in their advocacy activities with the city government of Bandung, GIDKP assisted the local government in gradually running the single-use plastic reduction program (over the course of five years).

In the educational approach, GIDKP's main program is called Envirochallenge, which is a mentoring program for high school-level education institutions whose students are interested in the issue of plastic waste. The program aims to build students' capacity in systematically formulating proposals for environmental and climate programs. The selected program will then obtain funding and mentoring from GIDKP.

In the cooperation approach, GIDKP runs a plastic-free market program. Within this program, GIDKP collaborates with modern retailers and traditional markets to gradually build an ecosystem that makes people accustomed to using eco-friendly shopping bags.

Civic Engagement Pathways

Of the five GIDKP daily administrators who were informants for this study, some have a background in environmental and climate issues while others do not.

One of the cofounders previously worked as a lawyer at a law firm for six years. This informant had been interested in environmental and climate issues as a child, and devoted his/her career to fight for these causes. The informant started by petitioning retailers to not give away plastic bags for free, which then received support from various other parties. With his/her background in law school, the informant focused their attention on the policy side of environmental and climate issues, specifically highlighting the problem of plastic waste. This was also reflected in GIDKP's main approach during his/her tenure as a director.

Another informant, who was a type B informant, also had no background in working on environmental and climate issues. Prior to joining GIDKP, he/she was actively involved in sustainable development issues, and were initially involved in organizing youth networks for sustainable development. He/she first became aware of GIDKP when an acquaintance, one of GIDKP core team, joined the same youth network.

Meanwhile, three other core team had been active in environmental and climate issues prior to joining GIDKP. Two informants were members of GIDKP's founding institution. When GIDKP was formed, both informants joined GIDKP and acted as a national coordinator and volunteer respectively. Another informant had been involved in GIDKP's work while they were still a student. At that time, they were involved in IAAS (International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences), which is a network of agricultural science students who are concerned about environmental issues. Because of their involvement in IAAS, the informant was invited by GIDKP to collaborate in organizing the Zero Waste Youth Festival, which is one of the organization's activities. They subsequently joined GIDKP as a volunteer before eventually being employed as educational staff.

Dimensions of Civic Engagement

These dimensions of civic engagement were indirectly identified during discussions about pathways of civic engagement and approaches to achieving organizational change agendas.

For example, civic commitment is illustrated by the desire of one of the cofounders to contribute to environmental and climate cause even though he/she had a professional career as a lawyer. The civic skills dimension can be gleaned from the way in which he/she rearranged the organizational governance of the organization as soon as he/she was appointed director of GIDKP. Collective decision-making ability is also reflected in the involvement of all core team members in the making of important decisions concerning the organization.

Youth Engagement Strategy

The early, youth-dominated stewardship of GIDKP shaped its image as a youth organization.

Of the five GIDKP core team members who were informants for this study, all joined GIDKP in their youth (defined as 16-30 years). Some joined the organization at the age of 27 or 28, some at the age of 24, while some even started as early as 20 years old. Two of the five core team members who were informants for this study joined GIDKP as volunteers and were later appointed to the core management team.

A type A informant mentioned that GIDKP has an image of being a youth organization because, in the early stages of its formation, its membership was dominated by young people. Nevertheless, GIDKP is looking to shift away from this image; youth organizations are typically focused on campaigning or educational activities, which makes it more challenging for them to enter into strategic areas such as policy advocacy.

The informant also mentioned that there is no specific goal of recruiting young people as GIDKP administrators—recruitment is usually done based on competence. Most members are recruited through internal recommendations, or because they have had previous work experience with GIDKP as volunteers or project officers. In most cases, strategic positions, such as legal, communications, and environment staff, are filled by people over 30 years of age due to GIDKP's need for experienced people. While other staff positions—such as those in education and public campaigning—are deemed more suitable for younger people because they are considered to be more digital-savvy and more attuned to the language of social media users.

A type B informant also added that, based on the results of the surveys they conducted, young people had the advantage of being able to drive initiatives, which makes them very suitable as agents of change in society. In terms of their own advocacy activities, young people are often not particularly engaged because they have limitations in knowledge and experience, in particular with interacting with government officials who are typically much older. That said, having young people on the ground as drivers of the movement helped the advocacy teams to reassure policy makers that there were people who could push those policies on the ground.

As for its youth engagement strategy, since 2016 GIDKP has organized 'Envirochallenge', which is an educational program specifically tailored for young people (high school students).

This program has been implemented in schools across Jabodetabek, Bandung, and Bali. The criterion for selecting schools for involvement is that they already display an awareness about climate and the environment. Schools are selected on the basis of recommendations from several parties, with priority given to schools that are enrolled in the Adiwiyata program that is organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The program consists of two main components, namely capacity building and mentoring. Capacity building is carried out by training students in the hope that they will be able to develop proposals for environmental and climate programs in their respective schools. Proposals that pass the selection will be funded by GIDKP and subsequently receive support in the form of mentoring.

According to an informant who had previously participated in Envirochallenge, the training/workshop conducted by GIDKP helped them to analyze problems more systematically and made them more aware of the importance of conducting research before setting up a program. This proved beneficial not only for their involvement in the Envirochallenge program, but also for their involvement in running other organizations as well as in daily life.

In addition to Envirochallenge, young people are also involved in social campaign activities. For example, during the plastic-free march that was initiated by GIDKP and several other environmental and climate institutions, youth communities were involved as collaborators to make the march more festive, lively, and engaging. Young people are also involved in other activities initiated by GIDKP, such as raising petitions and writing open letters. These include a petition to reject single-use gallon water jugs and the writing of open letters to e-commerce companies urging them to reduce the use of disposable plastic bags.

Enabling and Inhibiting Ecosystems

In discussions about enabling ecosystems, informants cited the importance of community/organization-related factors for supporting the approach and the achievement of the GIDKP agenda. Meanwhile, when discussing inhibiting ecosystems, external factors are most commonly cited by informants. The informants also discussed social interaction factors, especially with key stakeholders who play an influential role in establishing a supportive ecosystem for carrying out GIDKP's change agenda.

Social Interaction Factors

GIDKP is affiliated with various networks and alliances both at the global level—such as Break Free From Plastic (BFFP) and Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA) Asia Pacific—as well as the national level, such as the Alliance for Zero Waste Indonesia (AZWI). Interactions with organizations in these networks and alliances have helped GIDKP with implementing its organizational change agendas. Organizations under AZWI, for example, have been very helpful in the technical field, especially for achieving targets that fall under the three focus areas of GIDKP's approach, namely advocacy, education, and cooperation. Meanwhile, organizations at the global level assist GIDKP in obtaining information about global developments so that this information can be used by GIDKP to develop advocacy strategies and campaigns that are designed for the national level.

Interactions with government partners, donor partners and other stakeholders are also mentioned as enabling factors that support GIDKP's work. In its advocacy efforts with local governments, GIDKP takes the role of a partner who provides support/assistance to the government. In addition to providing technical support, such as the formulation of regulations/policies, GIDKP also provides financial support, such as allocating budgets for activities that are not included in the local government's budget. According to the informants, this strategy has helped GIDKP in winning the local government's trust. Other informants added that government partners, donor partners, and other stakeholders were also involved in the organization of certain programs.

Community or Organizational Factors

Having a working meeting every five years (internally referred to as a "bootcamp") is also a factor that is frequently discussed by informants. During these bootcamps, the GIDKP team discusses their theory of change and the strategies that will be implemented in the next five years. The bootcamps also serve as a forum for the GIDKP team to reflect on the achievements and lessons learned during the past five years. In addition to bootcamps, GIDKP also organizes annual meetings for the team to reflect on the organization's annual achievements and targets. One of the Type B informants mentioned that, during these bootcamps, the team also maps the directions of local government developments; the outcome of these mapping endeavors is then used as a reference for the organization's policy advocacy activities.

Human resources are also often cited by informants as one of the key internal factors that support the achievement of GIDKP targets. According to a type A informant, GIDKP employs rare talents such as people who are experts in the field of law.

This is a unique advantage which strengthens the organization's policy advocacy efforts. Another type A informant added that, in addition to legal experts, GIDKP also has communications experts who can support the organization's public communications agendas as well as statisticians who can help with calculating targeted measurements of change.

Another internal factor mentioned by an informant is the improvement of organizational governance. When became the director of GIDKP, the informant initiated key internal changes to administrative, financial, and human resource affairs (such as improving organizational structure and authority, employee employment contracts). The informant explained that good governance not only prevents mismanagement but that it is also of key importance for securing greater funding from donor agencies. Financial resources are also cited by a type B informant as an enabling factor in carrying out GIDKP activities. In advocacy activities for example, components that are not budgeted for by the local government, such as dissemination and public consultation, will usually be paid for by GIDKP.

Regarding Envirochallenge, a type C informant who is a program participant said that monitoring the schools that are involved has helped to ensure the effectiveness of the program. According to another type C informant who is a consultant, the process of discussing and internally reflecting on the lessons learned from the program has helped to improve the program year after year. Meanwhile, when it comes to factors that inhibit GIDKP's change agenda, a type A informant mentioned that GIDKP's image as a youth organization has made it challenging for the team to engage in policy advocacy (see section on youth engagement strategies). With regard to Envirochallenge, a type C informant said that limited time and funding, as well as a shift in GIDKP's priorities, have stalled the preparation of modules and the implementation of the Envirochallenge program since 2020.

External Factors

While discussing external structural factors, informants frequently mentioned the COVID-19 pandemic as a key factor that has affected GIDKP activities. On the one hand, social restrictions due to the pandemic have pushed the organization to adapt its educational programs for online use, thus expanding the reach of its audience beyond that of the Jabodetabek region. On the other, the restrictions also posed challenges to some of the organization's activities, particularly in terms of advocacy. For instance, government stakeholders are usually more comfortable with face-to-face meetings than online meetings. Efforts to carry out activities online, for example during public consultations, have a limited number of participants.

Another factor that is cited as inhibiting GIDKP activities is related to stakeholder dynamics as well as political dynamics at the local level. In advocacy work, for example, any change of leadership at key agencies means that the team must again start from scratch in coordinating with new officials. In addition, changes in agency priorities that are based on directives from leadership are also not uncommon and can affect ongoing advocacy efforts. An informant also added that the direction of policy at the regional level is also often influenced by the political interests of those who are in opposition to the government.

Such stakeholder dynamics affect not only advocacy activities but also cooperation and educational activities. In the plastic-free market program for example, changes in terms of the market administrators forced the team to start communication from scratch with the new management. In the Envirochallenge program, a change in direction of local government policy in a certain province led to more enthusiasm among schools to participate in the program.

Finally, another external inhibiting factor that was mentioned was that of intervention by the plastics industry. The plastics industry is thought to often "interfere" with single-use plastic reduction efforts, such as, for example, by lobbying the government. GIDKP addressed this not by directly engaging with these industry actors, but instead through an indirect approach that involved the public, various media, and even public figures. Informants mentioned that petitioning retailers is one example of a successful approach that involves the community. In addition, partnerships with the government also allow GIDKP to be informed about the agendas that the plastics industry seeks to achieve.

Another external factor that is perceived as hindering the work of GIDKP, especially in the field of education, is the lack of understanding among the public and the media regarding the urgency of plastic issues.

Many parties are not aware that the problem of plastics is not just a question of waste, but that this is also related to the climate crisis and that will have an impact on various other sectors if not addressed appropriately.

Meanwhile, external factors that are perceived to support the work of GIDKP, particularly in the field of education, are the implementation of an education curriculum in 2013 and the Adiwiyata school program that is run by KLHK. The 2013 curriculum contains materials about the environment, and Adiwiyata has assisted schools to be more prepared for receiving support through the Envirochallenge program.

Key Outcomes and Lessons Learned

GIDKP's biggest achievement is primarily related to policy advocacy, namely the issuance of various regulations that limit single-use plastics in several regions.

A type B informant said that one of the biggest achievements of GIDKP in terms of advocacy efforts is the assistance that was provided to the provincial government of Jakarta province in issuing regulations on the restriction of single-use plastics. This is among the organization's biggest achievements because, as a capital region, policies in Jakarta will indirectly affect other regions. GIDKP's assistance began with a preliminary study that analyzed the basic data that was available on the use of plastic bags in Jakarta, and that determined what the public opinion was on the issue of plastic waste. While formulating this regulation, the GIDKP team also conducted public consultations with the affected parties. Once the regulation was published and became effective, the GIDKP team also conducted a monitoring study to determine the difference/impact of the regulation compared to the baseline condition. The results of these preliminary studies and monitoring studies are also being used by GIDKP to determine their potential next interventions.

GIDKP also carries out similar advocacy activities in other areas. In 2016, GIDKP conducted a trial study on paid plastic bags in several districts/cities in Indonesia in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. To this day, GIDKP has successfully encouraged more than 70 districts/cities to issue policies that limit the use of disposable plastics. A type A informant added, however, that the issuance of regulations regarding the reduction of single-use plastics should not be seen as the final achievement, because the implementation of these regulations is equally important for achieving the vision and mission of GIDKP. Once regulations have been published, the monitoring system becomes an important component for follow-up, which is being pursued by GIDKP together with local governments.

Due to such advocacy efforts, informants learned that policy change cannot be achieved only through cooperation with government/policymakers. Policy advocacy efforts also need to engage other stakeholders. For example, when pushing regulation for the reduction of plastics, the public should also be involved so that they are more aware about the problem of plastic waste, and therefore also more willing to follow this regulation once it has been issued.

In the field of education, a type B informant mentioned that one of the organization's biggest achievements is organizing a plastic-free march in 2019 that involved thousands of participants. The event was also covered by various reputable media. The informant also mentioned that, through the Envirochallenge program, GIDKP has innovatively addressed the challenges that were brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic by developing a Plastic-Free Guideline for Schools. The guideline is intended to be both a reference and a learning material for schools who wish to replicate the existing programs of Envirochallenge without having to become participants. The program itself has successfully engaged 50 schools and around 1,000 students and school residents in Jabodetabek, Bandung, and Bali.

Moreover, in the field of cooperation, the plastic-free market initiative carried out in a traditional market in South Jakarta was mentioned as another of GIDKP's achievements. This initiative was subsequently replicated in other areas and has been adopted in Bandung City, Bali Province, Surabaya City, and Banjarmasin City. As a result of the implementation of this program, the GIDKP team learned that their approach needed to be adjusted to the specific characteristics of each region, because the market type is different in each region. In Bali, for example, markets are typically traditional, which is why the team decided to also engage local traditional figures in the intervention program. In Surabaya, public markets are owned by private companies, so the approach is geared directly toward the market owner. In addition to adjusting the approach to the characteristics of each region, the team also learned that the applied approach must also be adjusted to target beneficiaries, such as, among others, market traders, PKK community organizers, government employees. Team members must adapt the approach to the dynamics that exist in each category of beneficiaries.

Jaga Rimba

Brief Description: Goals, Challenges, and Approaches

Jaga Rimba is a youth initiative that focuses on forest conservation and that undertakes campaigns to protect the rights of indigenous peoples as well as affected local communities.

Jaga Rimba was initiated by a group of young people together with their school friends in 2019. The founding of Jaga Rimba by this group of young people was driven by their witnessing of the destruction of indigenous forests in Kinipan Village, Central Kalimantan, which were removed to make place for palm oil plantations. The School Strike for Forests has since been organized by this group as a gesture of solidarity with indigenous people who are affected by the expansion of palm plantations in Kinipan as well as to demand their rights. In addition, Jaga Rimba also encouraged public participation through petitions and fundraising on social media using the hashtag #SaveKinipan, and managed to collect 60,000 signatures. Jaga Rimba, as a representative of Indonesian youths, has successfully raised the issue of indigenous rights within the global movement Fridays for Future International.

Jaga Rimba was also established in order to work toward a bigger goal, namely of building a movement for young people to learn, engage in dialogue, and to speak up about youth rights. Moreover, Jaga Rimba initiators also realized that this "Learning" movement needed to involve not only young people living in urban areas but also those living in non-urban areas. In particular, the establishment of Jaga Rimba was also inspired by disappointment among these young people in the government's policy on climate and environmental (ILH) issues, which did not meet their expectations, particularly in its implementation.

Some members of Jaga Rimba also added that, while the rights of indigenous people are the main issue discussed by Jaga Rimba, it is important to note that this issue also intersects with other climate and environmental issues. The necessity of widening the organization's focus to also include climate and environmental issues was also determined through interactions that members of Jaga Rimba had with other movements on various occasions. For example, in 2020, when Jaga Rimba was involved in a demonstration, they learned about other movements whose focus is on the ocean and pollution issues. In interviews, members of Jaga Rimba mentioned that while they have their own focus, this does not mean that other issues are not important. However, there is a need for the climate and environmental movement to be constantly aware about the intersections between various issues, and to adaptively reflect on

this situation as well as the other political and social aspects of Indonesia.

To educate the public on issues that are the focus of attention, social media is often used to disseminate content for educating and encouraging young people to support Jaga Rimba's main agendas. Digital campaign methods are often used to raise issues that concern forests and indigenous peoples. In addition to educating, social media is also used to open a wider space for dialogue with fellow young people. Social media is also used by Jaga Rimba to disseminate information and to educate people on other topics pertaining to climate justice, such as issues around the decolonization of the climate and environmental movement.

Jaga Rimba realizes that its main power and potential lie in its ability to educate the public on social media, especially young people, rather than in engaging in formal advocacy. Furthermore, this approach is also preferred by Jaga Rimba because its members believe that they are often underestimated in formal advocacy processes due to ageism.

In addition to social media, Jaga Rimba also employs other approaches for engaging young people, such as holding activities to discuss books/films/issues related to climate and environmental issues (commonly referred to as the "Learning Circle"), thus attracting young people to join Jaga Rimba and to further support the cause. Through this process of recruiting members, young people are constantly reminded about their strategic role in combating climate and environmental problems as well as the importance of solidarity among fellow young people for being able to push for change.

Concerns about the climate and environmental issues have become a big driver for people to become a member of Jaga Rimba. The Learning Circle activities help members, especially young people of middle and high school age, to increase their understanding of the complexity of climate and environmental issues and to deepen their engagement in activism. One member revealed that being exposed to indigenous issues made them realize that there are still many government regulations that do not support or uphold the rights of indigenous peoples. In addition, the symptoms of the climate crisis are clearly apparent even in the cities where young people live, which further reminds them of the problems with the environment and thus further encourages them to remain active in Jaga Rimba.

Approaches that are more focused on direct action are carried out in addition to such discussion activities. Besides the school strike, Jaga Rimba also carried out direct visits to conflict areas. For example, members of Jaga Rimba went directly to the Kinipan region and interacted with affected communities. This example was followed up by other members in a more informal manner in other regions such as in North Sumatra.

However, the approaches taken by Jaga Rimba are not necessarily set in stone, because members can easily propose an activity or a partnership with other communities. This is possible because the management of Jaga Rimba is quite organic and does not have an official management structure, which means that anyone can propose a new activity or approach.

Forms of Civic Engagement

The digital and offline approach taken by Jaga Rimba, as outlined in the previous section, is informed by three forms of civic engagement, namely awareness-raising efforts, providing networking opportunities, and engaging in civil protests.

First, awareness-raising efforts are conducted in the form of campaigns, online public discussions and the creation of artworks, as well as outreach and education efforts in schools through Jaga Rimba Goes to School activities. Secondly, Jaga Rimba provides learning or networking forums, such as collaboration with the 'Ruang Baca Puan' to discuss the issue of ecofeminism, which is a "Learning Circle" activity where participants can share reading materials and discuss these with others. Third, Jaga Rimba organized protests, including the school strikes in front of the KLHK building and digital strikes that were carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These three forms of engagement are not always carried out with separate purposes. For example, in the implementation of digital strikes, the materials used for this type of action were derived from the outcomes of the Learning Circle activities. Digital strikes involve posters that are made by members of Jaga Rimba in various regions and that are related to specific issues, which are then posted on their respective Instagram pages.

Furthermore, some members also note that such protest activities are not necessarily carried out with the purpose of advocating for policy change, but also as a way for members of Jaga Rimba to express their concerns both as individuals and as a group.

Civic Engagement Pathways

The initiator and a member of Jaga Rimba revealed that, before organizing and becoming active in Jaga Rimba, they had already been active in organizations that also focus on climate and environmental issues, such as Bye Bye Plastic Bag, House of Fauna, and Extinction Rebellion.

While reflecting on their involvement in other organizations, Jaga Rimba initiators noted that many youth organizations or organizations involving young people are still predominantly focused on reaching young people in urban areas. They soon realized that there needed to be a movement that also involved more young people from non-urban areas. In addition, their involvement in other organizations helped the organizers learn about project management and organization, which also inspired them to form Jaga Rimba.

One initiator recounted in more detail one special experience that strongly motivated them to create Jaga Rimba. During a particular discussion on climate and environmental issues, they noticed that most of the speakers were adults with extensive work experience and with an educational background from schools abroad. This initiator aspired to have the ability to understand these issues and contribute like adults in such discussions, thus creating space and opportunity for young people to share their opinion on the concerns that are relevant to their lives.

Having similar hobbies and a shared desire to learn more has encouraged young people to join and remain in Jaga Rimba. An informant mentioned that the reason they cofounded Jaga Rimba was because of their friendship with the main initiator (since middle school) and because of sharing the same hobbies, which are climbing mountains and other outdoor activities. They also expressed that having the same concerns about the future of forests in Indonesia was an additional strong motivation for the initiators to form Jaga Rimba.

One member also revealed that participating in French Language course, in which they met the initiators, also created an opportunity to interact with them and join Jaga Rimba.

Some informants became interested in joining Jaga Rimba because they had been inspired by the activism carried out by its initiators. Three members said that they became aware of Jaga Rimba after seeing the documentary "Diam dan Dengarkan", and recounted being amazed by the Jaga Rimba initiators, especially given their young age and awareness about climate and environmental issues. Some members had no previous experience in engaging with climate and environmental issues.

For example, one particular member joined Jaga Rimba in 2020 because they, one day, had searched on social media for a climate and environmental community and found Jaga Rimba, which was a community that appealed to them. In addition, Jaga Rimba's presence on social media also made it easier for one particular informant to contact Jaga Rimba and eventually join them. Currently, the informant continues to be an active member of Jaga Rimba.

After joining Jaga Rimba, one initiator also often act as a mentor for new members by giving them advice and by facilitating consultation regarding advocacy and community management.

Dimensions of Civic Engagement

Beside climate and environmental concerns as the main drivers of engagement, this study also finds that the level of civil commitment and social cohesion among members is a fairly dominant dimension of civic engagement, and this influences the management of the Jaga Rimba movement.

In terms of civil commitments, for example, various members expressed that their main reason for staying in Jaga Rimba is the goal of maintaining young people's awareness, and especially about the issues that are promoted by Jaga Rimba. Although some members are disappointed by government policy on climate and environmental issues, members of Jaga Rimba remain optimistic about the chances of policy reform in Indonesia. This optimism is observed during various interactions between young people. In addition, Jaga Rimba initiators also assert that young people's idealism and aspirations to act upon in climate and environmental issues can be a form of capital and a major driver of the movement, especially in terms of Jaga Rimba's effort to expand awareness of the movement among young people.

Social cohesion can also be witnessed in the experience of organizing the movement. A sense of close friendship in the community keeps members engaged and even inspires new members to join, and the community also provides space for its members to share their concerns about climate and environmental issues. A member of Jaga Rimba even mentioned that the degree of friendship found in Jaga Rimba is unlike anywhere else and that it feels like home, offers a safe place to tell stories without being judged by others, and provides a support system for self-development.

Apart from being in close contact with fellow members, informants also discussed the level of attachment to other groups of young people.

This attachment can be witnessed in the support that other communities give to Jaga Rimba, for example by providing advice as well as input for the further development of the movement. Furthermore, such relationships with other communities also help Jaga Rimba to raise resource support, for example while searching for funding sources, during the implementation of activities, or by providing input that contributes to the continuity of the movement.

Youth Engagement Strategy

According to members of Jaga Rimba, the role of young people is crucial for pushing the agenda of change that Jaga Rimba seeks to achieve because young people are, indeed, the next generation.

Young people also tend to be more aware about the environment and have the privilege of knowing how to utilize technology to maximize the impact of their activism. In addition, young people are frequently understood to be more idealistic in their thinking, and therefore less fixated on personal economic needs or interests.

Organizationally, Jaga Rimba does not have an official recruitment system although it initially had some membership requirements (such as maximum number of members as well as a maximum age) that are now no longer enforced. Currently anyone, both young people and adults, is free to join as long as they are interested in the issues that the organization focuses on and the agenda it seeks to achieve.

Membership and the division of roles are voluntary and there is no official organizational structure. This is something Jaga Rimba has copied from other communities that aim to build sustainable and co-owned communities. This strategy was also inspired by ideas from the anarchist movement, which seek to uphold the spontaneity and enthusiasm of young people in organizing and running their movements. This system was also put in place so that there would be no hierarchies among members of Jaga Rimba. Due this flexible system, it is hoped that many young people will become interested in joining and will eventually develop a sense of ownership over the community.

Despite the lack of a formal organizing system, the division and description of tasks is still carried out and arranged according to specific areas of work, such as assigning coordinators for social media management and article writers for the creation of media content.

Furthermore, the membership management of certain divisions is voluntary. The management of the Learning Circle, for example, is done by a Library Team that is tasked with documenting the proposals that are made in terms of literature, film, or video; membership of this team is voluntary depending on the interests and capacities of members who are interested in performing this task.

Jaga Rimba's strategy for reaching young people is to maximize the use of social media in their campaigns, especially for reaching peers. Protest as well as digital strikes are also used to expand youth networks.

Although there is no age restriction for becoming a member, all current members of Jaga Rimba are young, and they are all either friends of the founders or friends of former members. The current membership is diverse and ranges from school and university students to young people in the workforce. Geographically, members are still mainly from Jakarta and its surrounding areas. There are also small coordination groups that are based on members' domicile that communicate with members in other regions.

Enabling and Inhibiting Ecosystems

Various enabling and inhibiting factors are identified for Jaga Rimba as an organization, including individual driving factors, relationships among young people, support from adults or other organizations, governance and internal resources of the organization, as well as external factors.

Individual Factors

One initiator, in addition to their ability to attract other young people and have them join and stay in Jaga Rimba, also play a significant role in organizing various activities within Jaga Rimba. Some activities in Jaga Rimba started with initiatives that this initiator undertook, such as school strikes and site visits to conflict areas, in which other members later participated. A documentary that discussed the activism of the Jaga Rimba movement was screened, and this inspired some young people to engage in climate and environmental issues and join Jaga Rimba. When this initiator took a break from their role in Jaga Rimba, some activities were postponed for a while. Another informant recounted that Jaga Rimba, as a movement, was in limbo during this period. This situation was acknowledged by the initiator, who said that all members should be involved in maintaining and running Jaga Rimba as a movement and that they could not simply depend on one single person to ensure the continuity of the movement.

Social Interaction Factors

Social relationships with fellow members of Jaga Rimba as well as other organizational partners or communities of young people are seen as an important supporting factor for the movement. The sense of close friendships among fellow members of Jaga Rimba, especially in terms of accepting and appreciating different views within the community, is also felt to be something that encourages members to remain active in Jaga Rimba. The high degree of solidarity within the community can also be witnessed when, for example, one active member intends to take a break from Jaga Rimba's activities and other members take the initiative to help take over their role of managing Jaga Rimba.

Close friendship within the community keeps many members active in Jaga Rimba. The more members interact with their peers, the more pronounced the impact of their activism will be, because many join the movement and share the same concerns. In fact, one member said that the reason for joining Jaga Rimba was primarily because they saw one of the initiators of Jaga Rimba and thought they were "cool" because they were actively working on climate and environmental issues.

In addition to the internal closeness of Jaga Rimba members, support from fellow young people is also seen as a supporting factor. For example, support is provided by fellow young people by giving advice while running Jaga Rimba and by compiling content for its campaigns. Support for Jaga Rimba from fellow young people is also provided by compiling hearing materials for advocacy activities with other communities, finding sources of funds for community sustainability, acquiring new knowledge about climate and environmental issues and organizational management, as well as by inspiring Jaga Rimba members to continue actively voicing their concerns about climate and environmental issues.

However, not all interactions with fellow young people lend support to Jaga Rimba's agenda. Negative comments from fellow young people, distrust in terms of the issues that are focused on, as well as scorn from other young people, are mentioned by informants as inhibiting factors for the movement. For example, an informant recounted an experience in which they were teased for using plastic straws, which was seen as betraying the cause that they were supposed to be fighting for, and also recounted receiving negative comments when conducting a digital strike on social media. These are things that are experienced as demoralizing for members who participate in Jaga Rimba activities.

In addition to interactions with young people, Jaga Rimba also receives support from adults or non-youth stakeholders, which ranges from appreciation of Jaga Rimba media content and organizational activities, positive responses from indigenous people, parental support in the form of giving permission for participating in activities, to providing reading materials, films, and contributing to discussions to better understand climate and environmental issues.

Social interaction with adults can also be an inhibitor for young people in carrying out their activism. The lack of support from schools and parents is of particular concern to informants. At the school level, for example, the absence of school support makes it difficult for activism to continue being carried out. But in addition to this absence of support, sometimes schools actively resist youth activism, namely by requesting clarifications or by issuing warnings to students about their involvement in a protest. At home, some informants revealed that it was difficult to obtain parental consent, because parents sometimes believe that activism is frightening and dangerous, which hindered their active participation as members of the movement.

Negative comments from the general public were also received by members of Jaga Rimba, usually because of their young age and because they are perceived as lacking the capacity or competence to voice the issues at hand. Furthermore, some informants mentioned tokenistic forms of youth involvement that are employed by the government, which frequently tends to dismiss the concerns of Jaga Rimba members or other young people during general during hearings.

Informants also commented on the interactions they have with adult stakeholders who both enable and inhibit their activism. While working on the theory of change, Jaga Rimba was inspired by writings on anarko, degrowth, ecofeminism, and decolonization, to understand more about climate justice from a Global South perspective. Access to readings is generally provided by organizations from civil society partners or as the result of engagement or discussion involving other communities. Other non-youth climate and environmental organizations also provide support by sharing compiled infographics, buying products during Jaga Rimba's fundraising activities, helping expand their networks by connecting them with other climate and environmental organizations/movements, as well as providing legal support when the social media accounts of some Jaga Rimba members were hacked after a demonstration. According to members of Jaga Rimba, these forms of external supports foster motivation, inspiration, and passion to continue their fight against climate and environmental issues.

On the other hand, Jaga Rimba also has their own particular perspective regarding relationships with donor institutions.

Based on one informant's observations, some civil society movements with a high degree of idealism tend to renege on these ideals once they start adhering to the interests or agendas of donors. This has caused Jaga Rimba to be highly cautious about the specific interests of certain donor institutions, and this is also the reason why they feel that young people must create their own social arena that is free from the interests of other institutions.

Community or Organizational Factors

Jaga Rimba has a fluid and dynamic organizational and membership structure, thus allowing for a more flexible division of tasks and making its management independent from particular members. According to the initiators and various members, this promotes the long-term sustainability of the community because many young people have other responsibilities outside this community.

Certain member characteristics are also seen as an asset for the management of the community. For example, the characteristics of members are diverse in terms of their socioeconomic background, which affects their level of education, knowledge, and experience in working on climate and environmental issues. Members from urban areas have access to a wider range of information, while sub-urbanites have first-hand experience with the impacts of climate change, which is something that makes the movement interesting. This dual perspective allows for the exchange of information and knowledge among fellow members. The animated spirit and solidarity among members for participating, as well as their humility, are also seen as characteristics that promote community sustainability.

Funding limitations as well as the busyness of members are inhibiting factors that many informants mentioned. During its existence, funding for Jaga Rimba has come from various internal communities or from member funds; there has been no external support. This is also because Jaga Rimba is careful in accepting external donations from organizations that do not share the same values and fighting spirit as Jaga Rimba, and because they fear that external donations might threaten the interests of the community. The voluntary nature of Jaga Rimba's membership allows members to go to school or work elsewhere, which can complicate a member's ability to provide their full commitment to community management. Issues in terms of distance barriers and a lack of funds for participating in Jaga Rimba activities are challenges that are faced by some members.

Some members also expressed concerns about their lack of ability in community management, especially in terms of writing activity notes, maintaining documentation, writing good articles for publication, as well as managing social media accounts.

External Factors

The role of social media and television news media makes many young people interested in learning about environmental issues, seeking out communities, and joining them, including organizations such as Jaga Rimba. In addition, public support for Jaga Rimba's advocacy messages on social media is also considered to be a supporting factor for increasing the number of young people interested in joining Jaga Rimba. Awareness is crucial for gaining public support, which is why members of Jaga Rimba are motivated to continue to learn about social media management and thus to reach different types of social media users.

The COVID-19 pandemic affects modes of activity and participation, and thus also how members and young people can be involved in Jaga Rimba activities. Activities that Jaga Rimba undertook before the pandemic were mostly offline, ranging from outreach activities to schools, protests and public fundraising. According to Jaga Rimba members, the shift in activities from offline to online has influenced members' sense of ownership, because not all members are interested in participating in online activities.

The advocacy message that is broadcast by Jaga Rimba does not always receive approval from everyone, especially when this message is voiced by young people. During several protests the social media accounts of some members of Jaga Rimba were hacked, which led the organization to draft and implement member safety mitigation strategies and to seek support from legal aid agencies.

Key Outcomes and Lessons Learned

Members of Jaga Rimba asserted that the organization's biggest achievements are that people started talking about indigenous issues on social media as well as sharing Jaga Rimba content.

The positive reaction from the public was also witnessed in the support given to the #SaveKinipan petition, which sought to make information about forest issues and indigenous people's rights better understood and talked about by young people. Invitations to collaborate have also emerged after Jaga Rimba held activities with the Ruang Baca Puan Puan, which is a shared learning space.

Other achievements include the raising of funds that were used to build a guardhouse hall in an area bordering the palm concession area in Kinipan,

the sharing of data and information with Jaga Rimba by high school students about a nature reserve area, as well as members' perception that Jaga Rimba is the primary place to discuss climate and environmental issues.

Valuable lessons were obtained, both individually and collectively, from the activities that were carried out by Jaga Rimba. Individually, joining Jaga Rimba helps members to learn about the management of projects and movements, provides members with new information from the literature that they read, and builds character and critical thinking skills, offers new experiences, as well as providing members with a safe place to share their concerns. In addition, members also learn to be more open toward and accepting of new or different views, become more perseverant, and to learn about public communication skills.

The direct exposure of members to climate and environmental activism also teaches them that the process of policy formulation in Indonesia is complicated, that the climate and environmental movements in their regions are diverse, that solidarity in the movement plays an important role, and that the greatest changes start with oneself and within one's closest surrounding. In building out the broader climate and environmental movement, Jaga Rimba is also aware that each individual movement requires a clear vision to achieve its goals regardless of its organizational management. Thus, to build such a movement, Jaga Rimba needs to expand its networks and reach more people outside of its existing networks. The ability and willingness to learn while participating in the movement is important for determining the direction and strategy of its activism. Moreover, every member must uphold the spirit of the forms of activism that are carried out.

Establishing Jaga Rimba as a fluid community in terms of its organizational structure and membership was not an easy thing to achieve, and it took a lot of adjustment from members who were not used to working without a structure. Jaga Rimba's adaptation of a fluid community model was inspired by the approaches of underground activists, but this model was also selected for its ability to strengthen the sustainability of the organization, because members can take more initiative in determining the course of movement.

According to Jaga Rimba members, many activities that are conducted by Jaga Rimba are organized without concrete ideas about their results or without having an official evaluation system. Offline evaluation is conducted informally by spontaneously asking participants about the activity, and online evaluation is done through communications on the group chat channel. Evaluation is also not always done in writing. Instead, it is usually carried out verbally and only after activity is completed.

Documentation of activities is usually done in the form of taking minutes, but these are generally not used for publication, and particularly not for social media.

Some members have particular views about Jaga Rimba's achievements and how to measure their impact. According to the opinion of one informant, success is achieved when the issues that are being pushed are heard by the community even if the engagement of the community is not so specifically measured. Other informants actually argued against the formal documentation of activities that are carried out. In activism, success needs to be interpreted in different ways, that is, not just in terms of changes to government policy, but also in terms of reaching out and changing people's perceptions. According to one member, the achievements of Jaga Rimba's activism are difficult to measure because their impact cannot be seen directly. However, this informant also said that documentation and evaluation can help Jaga Rimba to determine the focus of its activism and strategy in the future.

In the future, members of Jaga Rimba hope to strengthen the foundation of the organization by continuing to increase the level of knowledge and solidarity among its members, by

reaching other young people beyond the membership of Jaga Rimba, and by having a better capacity to raise public awareness about the Indigenous Peoples Bill.

Organizationally, several future goals and plans were expressed by members, such as continuing to fundraise by selling collectively produced goods, increasing the level of social cohesion among members (this has been reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic), increasing members' level of participation, restoring activities that were postponed because of the pandemic, thinking more deeply about community sustainability by reflecting on Jaga Rimba's membership base and by focusing more closely on issues that are important to the movement.

To achieve these goals funding is crucial, but this is something that is still being discussed internally and that has yet not been specifically strategized by Jaga Rimba. Furthermore, a secretarial meeting room is also needed to manage the organization of offline activities.

She Creates Changes (SCC) - Green Camp

Brief Description: Goals, Challenges, and Approaches

SCC - Green Camp is a program initiated by Change.org Indonesia to bring together and increase the capacity of women who are drivers of change in terms of promoting campaigns related to climate and environmental issues.

The SCC program was originally initiated by the organization that manages the petition website, Change.org in India and focuses on raising the issue of gender-based violence. Based on their experience with SCC activities in India, the manager of Change.org Indonesia was inspired to organize a similar program, but one that focuses on climate and environmental issues. This goal was by the fact that, in 2018, climate and environmental issues were the most frequently petitioned topics on the Change.org Indonesia channel. Indeed, since 2015, environmental issues have been one of the top five most popular issues on Change.org Indonesia. At the beginning of its launch in 2019, nearly 1,200 women applied to SCC - Green Camp, but at that time the program only accepted 21 participants. These selected participants were given training during a five-day residency to hone their skills in conducting effective campaigns for driving change.

The goal of the program is capacity building and network development. Initially, there were three agenda changes that SCC - Green Camp wanted to propose. First, SCC - Green Camp sought to increase the capacity of women in driving change so that the impact of their campaigns would be greater. Second, the program was also expected to help participants in strengthening their identity, interest, and personal motivation to affect changes. Third, the program also aimed to create communities as well as provide safe spaces and networks for women driving change. However, at SCC - Green Camp 2.0, which was held online during the pandemic, managers found it difficult to ensure that self-growth components were achieved during online trainings.

SCC - Green Camp's change agenda results from the management's belief that there are already drivers of change who are strongly motivated and who can affect changes in their respective regions. Nevertheless, these women still need to increase their capacity building for conducting campaigns digitally and for increasing the impact of the changes that they achieve.

In addition, based on the lesson-learned at Change.org as a site that facilitates digital campaigns, program managers found that individually-initiated movements need further support and alliances in order to be sustainable and impactful on a larger scale. Therefore, SCC - Green Camp also facilitates participants to network and this to strengthen collaborations between them. Post-training training and mentoring strategies have become an important part of the program. Prior to training, SCC - Green Camp participants are given presentations, videos, and training modules that they need to study in advance. During the training meetings, these materials are rerun one by one. Materials are provided in various formats to better assist participants in strategizing their campaign.

Post-training follow-up meetings generally occur organically between organizers and program participants. There is no written commitment in terms of the length of mentoring that is needed for participants to develop their campaign strategy. Based on information obtained from one of the participants, assistance is provided starting from the preparation and issuance of petitions, and extends to post-publishing support, such as conducting hearings with relevant stakeholders.

Forms of Civic Engagement

SCC - Green Camp is a program that provides training and mentoring as well as community building and networking for women who are driving change in Indonesia.

Campaigning or awareness-raising efforts are skills that SCC - Green Camp seeks to foster among its participants. For example, one of the participants of SCC - Green Camp organized a public campaign while simultaneously producing a documentary about the process.

Dimensions of Civic Engagement

SCC Green Camp fosters social cohesion through collaboration among participants, and shapes the civil commitment of participants by conducting trainings.

Social cohesion is reflected in the collaboration between participants in the SCC - Green Camp program and in the sharing of ideas and the celebration of each other's successes. In addition, participants not only establish friendships with each other during the training, but participants and facilitators establish relationships that remain strong even after the training has been completed. Sharing activity initiatives for potential collaboration is a process that also continues after training has been completed.

The level of civil commitment was exemplified by one SCC - Green Camp participant who believed that larger changes could start from making small changes, for example by instilling critical thinking skills so that participants could share their knowledge and experience with other young people, especially junior and high school students.

Youth Engagement Strategy

Although it does not cater to young people specifically, SCC - Green Camp is widely followed by young women.

SCC - Green Camp caters to women with diverse backgrounds who promote climate and environmental issues across various regions of Indonesia. This program is not specifically designed for young people under 30, but because recruitment of participants is done through online channels that are dominated by young users, 82 percent of participants are young women with an age range between 20-35 years old.

One of the interviewed participants considered the SCC - Green Camp strategy of reaching young women very good because they tend to have low levels of self-confidence. Before attending the training, the participant claimed to have little understanding of leadership, which they simply understood as being "leader of an organization". In addition, they said that the learning materials are easy to understand and that the activities carried out are fun.

Enabling and Inhibiting Ecosystems

Community/organization is generally mentioned by informants as an enabling factor while external factors are generally seen as inhibiting factors. In addition, an informant also discussed the influence of social interactions with stakeholders, which can become both enabling as well as inhibiting factors.

Social Interaction Factors

During its founding, SCC - Green Camp was assisted by various parties, such as speakers affiliated with various institutions and media partners who are experienced in raising the stories of women drivers of change. In addition, during the recruitment of participants, program managers were also assisted by NGOs and NGO networks who disseminated information about SCC - Green Camp.

However, one participant described a challenge that impacted their activism, namely the lack of support from one of the key stakeholders. At that time, assistance to the campaign was not followed up by related stakeholders, including the NGOs who had been encouraged to act.

Community or Organizational Factors

Recruitment strategies are also recognized as helping program managers with structuring activities that suit the needs of participants. The program also has a mechanism for measuring and documenting its achievements with several quantitative and qualitative indicators that have been established since its inception.

Before the training, participants are asked to fill out a questionnaire so that the manager can know the background, motivation, and each participant's level of understanding about the campaign. When training is conducted online, participants' time commitment becomes increasingly important. Thus, the manager sets various requirements for passing the program, including attendance, to ensure the commitment of participants. In addition, there are special sessions in which successful campaigners share their experiences and the challenges they encountered while conducting campaigns. During training, these successful campaigners accompany participants who are divided into several groups. All participants are also encouraged to actively participate, particularly those who tend to be more passive during the discussions. Participants are, moreover, provided with learning materials and encouraged to be confident while writing and publishing press releases even if these are not covered by the media.

After training ends, SCC - Green Camp continues to reach out and provide support to participants. For example, program managers will help participants review campaign strategies and facilitate in implementing them. Program managers also help connect participants with policymakers that are relevant to their campaigns. In addition, SCC - Green Camp also provides a forum for participants to share success stories, including those of change drivers from SCC programs in other countries, which can provide inspiration to others.

One of the program participants indicated that the material support provided as well as the warm reviews received from the program managers greatly helped younger participants who still had little experience in conducting campaigns. The provision of training materials that are strictly technical, such as mindfulness exercises, is also considered helpful in mentally preparing participants for the potential challenges they might face during the campaign.

External Factors

The COVID-19 pandemic hindered the implementation of the SCC - Green Camp program because trainings had to shift from offline to online. Managers had to modify training sessions to ensure that participants were comfortable and motivated throughout the training. Some materials had to be trimmed down because managers were worried that sessions would last for too long thus only exhaust the participants. Participants also said that online activities reduced the quality of interactions between them.

The diverse level of knowledge of participants on climate and environmental issues can become a challenge for program managers. As a result, special strategies are necessary, such as putting participants from different backgrounds together in one group so that they can learn from each other and creating learning material that are written in clear and simple language.

Program managers also noted challenges in mentoring participants after training. Despite the materials that are provided during training, many participants still have difficulty in clearly and measurably formulating a campaign strategy as well as in organizing a campaign and running it on the change.org platform. In addition, managers also observed that participants who are affiliated with an organization frequently experience bureaucratic challenges in their respective organizations because these do not always prioritize such campaigns. The implementation of campaign strategies is easier to achieve if participants work individually, but the outcome of the campaign also depends on the motivation of each participant.

Key Outcomes and Lessons Learned

The development of the SCC – Green Camp program can be seen from the 28 campaigns that were successfully launched by its participants in the second year as well as from the 24 campaigns were successfully launched by participants in the first year.

Managers also believe that their goal to become a networking forum was realized because of the interactions between participants who showed support for one another and who were interested in collaborating, although not strictly always on environmental and climate issues. According to managers, a group of participants that entirely consists of women is an opportunity because it allows participants to feel safer and to open and speak up. Program managers believe that it is important to create openness and trust among fellow participants and facilitators at the beginning of the training so that the session can run smoothly.

The program manager has determined various indicators of success from the very beginning, including the ability for storytelling, the ability to distribute campaign materials, and whether campaigns are followed up by policymakers and covered by the media. There are also various other qualitative indicators, such as closeness between participants and practices of sharing, supporting, and collaborating that demonstrate the achievement of community and the establishment of networks among participants. Program managers also divide tasks internally to document the implementation of activities and their accomplishments in annual reports, which can be used for future learning and that can also be accessed by the public.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a shift in training modes from offline to online, and this taught managers a lot about their program implementation. First, the change agenda needs to be focused on improving technical capacity and network establishment. Second, various adjustments to training strategies – in terms of time, materials, and delivery methods – also need to be made to ensure optimal training results. In addition, the pandemic discouraged certain participants from launching their campaigns because the issues that they wanted to campaign for have been sidetracked and have lost momentum. However, the manager does not consider this specific issue to be a major problem because, most importantly, participants already have sufficient skills, understand how to use the required devices, and know who to contact if a new issue emerges.

Indonesian Youth Council for Tobacco Control (IYCTC)

Brief Description: Goals, Challenges, and Approaches

The Indonesian Youth Council for Tobacco Control (IYCTC) is a coalition of young people that was formed in 2021, which emerged from discussions among youth organizations engaged in the issue of tobacco control in Indonesia.

The formation of IYCTC was driven by several young people involved in civil society organizations, and was facilitated by a foundation that has long focused on empowering teenagers and young people in tobacco issues. The foundation currently manages funding support to IYCTC from donor agencies that are engaged in tobacco control issues.

In its early form, IYCTC aimed to bring the issue of tobacco control closer to people, and particularly young people, so that more young people can become involved. According to one of the informants, tobacco is considered an unpopular and sensitive issue, as it concerns parties who have enormous resources and can exert strong influence. However, young people should be engaged in the issue of tobacco control because they are the main target and potential consumers of the tobacco industry.

The organization not only targets young people who are already active in tobacco control issues, but also those who are engaged in other issues, such as religious diversity and gender.

Early on, the organization conducted a mapping of youth organizations involved in other issues besides tobacco control. These youth organizations were then invited to a series of discussions with IYCTC when it was still in the process of being set up. IYCTC has an agenda for the issue of tobacco control to be discussed in an intersectional manner, because, according to one informant, senior activists engaged in tobacco issues tend to discuss tobacco control from a health perspective. Although some discuss the issue of tobacco control from the gender perspective, this is frequently done in a heteronormative manner. This happens, for example, by citing the narrative that the highest amount of household spending is due to the purchasing of cigarettes (by the father), which means that mothers find it challenging to manage household finances. The informant also added that, in addition to being gender insensitive, the approach of senior tobacco activists often lacks sensitivity to class issues. For example, they often resort to blaming the poor who spend social assistance funds on cigarettes, when in reality they should be seen as victims of the tobacco industry. The above issues underlie the two basic values of IYCTC, namely meaningful engagement with young people on tobacco control issues as well as more inclusive discussions on tobacco issues from various perspectives.

After some time, the organization shifted its agenda from engaging as many young people in the issue as possible (quantitative) to encouraging meaningful youth engagement in tobacco control issues (qualitative). This shift began when the founding institution gave the freedom to one of the founders (who was also an informant in this study) to propose ideas for the future development of the organization. Discussions with other IYCTC members indicated a need to develop guidelines for meaningful youth engagement in addressing the tobacco issue. In addition to holding internal discussions, the informant, along with their colleagues, also conducted a survey to better understand the reasons for young people's reluctance in speaking up about tobacco issues.

The guidelines are laid out in the Guide to Participation of Young People in Tobacco Control Issues (abbreviated as P3KT). The main targets of this P3KT document are for adolescents and young people between 15 and 24 years old, which corresponds with the age and composition of the most dominant members of IYCTC. In addition, this document is also intended for stakeholders who want to involve young people in their programs. The guideline also documents the various tobacco control efforts that young people have undertaken since 2009, which is done with the aim of providing a bargaining chip for young people, namely by providing evidence that what they are doing is nothing new.

The informant also explained that the IYCTC movement is organic and open (open-ended). Programs and activities are not designed from scratch and are allowed to develop as necessary. In capacity strengthening programs for members, for example, sessions/classes are organized according to the needs of the members without establishing definitive time frames at the beginning. Another example is the establishment of a management structure, which was initially not considered necessary, but later members realized that they needed an organizational structure for the proper management of the coalition's activities. In other words, coalition members realized that eventually a division of roles and decision-making mechanisms was needed.

Discussions with informants also describe the collective decision-making process that applied within the coalition. In capacity strengthening programs, for example, topics are determined based on mutual agreement and the needs of members. This collective approach is even applied to fundamental matters, such as the preparation of a stewardship structure, which was done through multiple online meetings with coalition members.

One informant said that this collective approach aims to create youth agencies while also creating a sense of belonging, which means that youths can participate in determining the direction of the coalition movement.

Forms of Civic Engagement

In addition to working on drawing up various guidelines, IYCTC also conducts activities with the aim of providing a forum for learning or networking for young people as well as policy advocacy.

As a forum for learning or networking, the organization carried out various forms of engagement, such as organizing 'NgeKOS' or Casual Online Classes to build the capacity of coalition members. The class provides learning materials that members can access on-demand, and members can choose which topics or materials to discuss together.

IYCTC also frequently conducts discussions among fellow members to share stories about good practices that can be promoted or replicated in other regions. The rich expertise of IYCTC members has given rise to further collaborations with other organizations, such as efforts to assist a certain non-youth foundation with creating a community of young people.

In terms of policy advocacy, IYCTC carries out activities to provide recommendations to policy makers at the regional level to assist them in their tobacco control efforts. Not only that, IYCTC also expanded into other advocacy activities, such as engagements with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry on World Tobacco Day as well as the Indonesian Youth Summit on Tobacco Control. Furthermore, IYCTC held Jamboree activities involving young people with support from the government, particularly the Ministry of Health. Advocacy related to the establishment of tobacco-free zones was conducted through this jamboree, but participants also discussed the good practices of the tobacco control movement, directly discussed with government officials, and launched a policy paper on tobacco-free zones that was based on the results of a digital survey. Advocacy efforts are undertaken by IYCTC because many of its members had already been engaged in advocacy before they joined the coalition.

With support from development partners, this coalition of young people also engages in advocacy on tobacco control issues, such as advocacy on tobacco-free zones—including the prohibition of tobacco advertising, promotion, and sponsorship, especially for advertisements that target children and young people. While carrying out these advocacy efforts, the coalition network and its partners worked together to conduct an online survey on people's perceptions of no-smoking and tobacco-free zones that involved more than 7,000 respondents. The results of this survey are being integrated into a policy record for use as an advocacy tool.

Dimensions of Civic Engagement

The social cohesion dimension can be seen in the relationship between members, while the dimension of civil commitment is seen in the coalition's common goals.

Although IYCTC is a coalition with many member organizations, one informant explained that the national secretariat keeps track of the general agenda of change as well as the activities of each member. On several occasions, collaboration between members took place in the form of support for this change agenda and the carrying out of joint activities. That is, building connections and networking with fellow members are both encouraged within the coalition.

In addition, the dimension of civil commitment is also reflected in a shared commitment to fighting for the meaningful participation of young people in tobacco control issues. An informant from one of the member organizations that focuses on the issue of plastics confirmed that young people play an equally important role in making changes, both in terms of tobacco as well as plastic control issues.

For tobacco issues specifically, the informant noted that young people could be the group that is most at risk if they are not engaged as the main subject for whom to make changes. In this regard, IYCTC has a strong commitment to making the involvement of young people more meaningful, as opposed to a tokenistic form of engagement. The informant also noted that young people who undertake action on tobacco issues are driven by a passion for saving future generations, or at least current generation of young people like themselves.

Youth Engagement Strategy

Strategies to build and expand the coalition are carried out by targeting young people (both individually and collectively) from different backgrounds, and particularly youths who are currently not active in the issue of tobacco control.

Currently, the coalition's membership is dominated by teenagers and young people aged 15-24 years from various backgrounds, ranging from high school and college students to young professionals coming from various regions, including Java, Eastern Indonesia, and other areas beyond Java. Nevertheless, IYCTC recognizes that there is a wider need for representation, particularly by disability and gender diverse groups.

IYCTC prioritizes recruiting members who want to learn about and be involved in the issue of tobacco control. In terms of the membership recruitment process, the coalition has a specific strategy. First, to map out relevant organizations and invite them to discuss with and join the coalition. Once they agree to join the coalition, prospective members must sign an integrity pact stating that they, as individuals and/or organizations, are not affiliated with the tobacco industry, which includes never having received money from the tobacco industry for the organization's activities. The integrity pact also includes a commitment to the prevention of violence and sexual exploitation, which has the aim of creating a safe space within the coalition.

The Informant is aware that IYCTC frequently issues joint statements to respond to specific issues. Nevertheless, statements are not absolutely binding and must be approved by all of the members. Each issued statement is specific to the matter that is being voiced. This system allows coalition members to have the freedom to declare support or to not conform to the agreement of member organizations internally.

Due to the formation of coalitions, internal governance is continuously developing. Early in the process of formation, coalitions were formed without structures to make ownership more flexible. However, learning from the practical experience of carrying out activities, especially if these were related to partner organizations, a working structure eventually became necessary. To create this structure, a method of deliberation for consensus or 'musyawarah' was implemented during a series of meetings with coalition members. During such meetings, the organization discusses the various organizational structure options that can be implemented. In addition to providing a structure, the coalition also formulates advocacy strategies by involving coalition members. Member organizations are involved in providing advice or input on plans and designs for coalition activities.

Enabling and Inhibiting Ecosystems

Discussions about enabling and inhibiting ecosystems that help or hinder the advance of IYCTC's agenda and approach are dominated by two main factors, namely social interaction with stakeholder adults or with fellow youths as well as external factors. External factors are widely considered to be movement inhibitors, while social interaction factors are considered as both enabling as well as inhibiting factors.

Social Interaction Factors

In terms of interactions with fellow young people, the diversity of members is seen as a factor supporting the coalition. Members coming from different regions in Indonesia are provided with opportunities for collaboration and learning from each other. In the advocacy process, this diversity of members can also provide a bargaining position, both for the national secretariat as well as for members in the region. For example, communication by coalition members with one of the key actors in local government improved after a visit from the national secretariat as well as development partners. In addition, the involvement of diverse groups of young people who are not directly focused on the issue of tobacco also contributes to the IYCTC agenda of bringing the issue of tobacco control closer to young people. However, an informant also noted that having a diverse membership can also be a challenge for the coalition, especially in its effort to engage all its members in various activities, particularly given the limitations of budgets.

Differences in approaches and perspectives among coalition members also pose some challenges. For example, some members consider the number of participants involved and a short implementation time as a valid indicator for measuring the results of an activity. However, there are some members who consider other aspects as being better indicators, such as compensation for participants, follow-up plans once an activity has been completed, incentives for speakers, and so on.

Interactions between young people engaged in tobacco control issues and young people engaged in other issues, including the environment and climate, were also cited by the informants as important. Despite facing similar challenges, especially intervention from corporate actors, environmental activists are often less concerned about tobacco control. Even if the issue of tobacco is discussed, there is often a perception that challenging the tobacco industry will badly affect farmers and workers, thus making it difficult to build alliances.

The interactions of one of the founders of IYCTC with various stakeholders on the issue of children and young people prior to creating the coalition is also considered to be a factor supporting the development of the coalition. Their previous experience in several other organizations engaged in various issues, such as modern slavery, youth worker welfare, and child protection, influenced the direction of the coalition and its goals. For example, a mental health guideline document that was developed in the organization in which they previously worked inspired the founder to compile a similar document for youth activists in the context of Indonesia.

Discussions about interacting with adult stakeholders are dominated by two big topics, namely the relationship with the older generation and the relationship with donors. However, the relationship between coalitions and donors cannot be separated from the dynamics involved when interacting with the senior generation because the process is still facilitated by CSOs. From the observations of one of the informants, interactions between youth movements, CSOs, and donors can potentially influence the perceptions of a decision or even change how young people work among themselves while building the movement. The informant also said that limited funding has forced organizations to compete with each other in attracting donors who can help finance their activities. Therefore, together with CSOs, the coalition often seeks to highlight its bargaining position in negotiating with potential donors.

The senior generation plays a role in supporting the coalition by being an ally of young people as well as by supporting young people in building their own movement, like the CSO who facilitated the coalition's formation. An informant noted that youth movements often need allies who are not young people themselves but those who understand the needs of young people and who believe in their potential. However, interacting with the senior generation also provides its own challenges for some young people due to differences in ways of working and perspectives on the world. For example, older activists are often not too concerned about working overtime, while young people prioritize work-life balance.

In addition, there is an impression that people from the older generation are reluctant to let young people work independently—the former are seen as micromanaging the latter. Interactions of this kind sometimes make young people feel dependent on their older counterparts. Despite such challenges, young people and senior generations are learning to work together more equally and meaningfully.

In their daily interactions, an informant observed that the various approaches adopted by donors can complement each other in their support of the various agenda changes that are focused on by the coalition; for example, some opt for a more diplomatic approach in interacting with the government while some are more outspoken. Donors can also provide flexibility and space for young people to bring up ideas that are relevant to the development of the youth movement. However, informants also note that sometimes donors have far greater expectations than the plans that were originally agreed upon. Moreover, giving overly detailed instructions can sometimes make young people feel distrusted, and can also affect the organizational flexibility of youth movements. However, such interactions can be a good opportunity for young people to negotiate with donors and to educate them about the needs of young people who are seeking to affect change, but it can also be an opportunity for donors themselves to work together and to understand the needs of young people better.

Community or Organizational Factors

One informant said that an open, flexible, and adaptive model is a key factor in the movement's growth. The initiative to develop a youth engagement guideline document, for example, managed to bring new donor partners into the coalition. The flexibility of the national secretariat in allocating additional budgets to support member advocacy activities in the regions also encourages more and better communication between members and key local actors. In addition, the diversity of members, as mentioned in the social interaction section, also simplifies the advocacy process for members in the region and strengthens IYCTC's bargaining position at the national level.

External Factors

The main structural barrier that is identified by this report is the influence of the tobacco industry. The tobacco industry has created biases and misperceptions among the public, and has even hijacked the progressive movement in Indonesia, thus making it difficult to build alliances between issues, including between the tobacco control movement and the environmental and climate movement. Those biases and misperceptions, for example, can be seen in the idea that a reduction of the tobacco industry would negatively impact farmers, workers, and so on. One informant also added that the issue of tobacco control has unique characteristics; arguing against the tobacco industry is an unpopular issue and lacks resources while at the same time poses a high risk. For example, the informant mentioned receiving death threats after speaking up against a tobacco company back in 2019.

Key Outcomes and Lessons Learned

The drafting of various guidance documents and policy notes is seen as the greatest success that have been achieved by the coalition.

The P3KT document is one of the key achievements of IYCTC. Not only has this document become a reference for many organizations interested in strengthening youth participation, but its publication inspired the creation of other derivative documents, such as the Tobacco Control Activist Protection and Mental Health (PPKM) document. This document provides direction for the coalition in its efforts to maintain the mental health of its members, protect them from sexual violence and bullying against disability groups, as well as mitigate of risks of digital threats and repression that may result from engaging in activism. According to one informant, these types of internal documents do not exist in activism led by senior activists from either the tobacco movement nor the environmental and climate movement. The drafting of this document is also seen as having raised the coalition's bargaining power in the eyes of stakeholders. The P3KT document and other derivative documents have been disseminated by the coalition in five districts/cities, and they have also recommended these documents to several ministries in their efforts to support donor partners.

The appreciation of various organizations for the P3KT document also increased the trust of donor partners in their support of the coalition's activities. As a result, IYCTC has acquired sufficient resources for compiling various internal documents, such as the Articles of Association and the Household Budget (AD/ART), through a deliberation process with its members.

Related to advocacy, various successes were achieved by regional members after joining the coalition. In addition to improving the advocacy process in an area in DIY Province as mentioned earlier, there are also advocacy stories that illustrate successes that have been achieved in other areas. Advocacy for Local Regulation regarding the prohibition of cigarette advertising in a city in Sumatra was successful thanks to several involved member organizations, including those domiciled outside the city/region.

In relation to the preparation of the coalition's work plan, until now, no coalition member has fulfilled a specific role in compiling, planning, monitoring, and evaluating documents. However, there is one person in charge of compiling reports for donor agencies that support the coalition's activities.

That there is no person who is in charge of designing the work plan and monitoring organizational activities is not merely due to the lack of human resources, capacity, and time, but also because it is believed that such a role would prevent the coalition from growing and moving forward quickly. According to one informant, the coalition has developed over time because of collective needs and agreements, not because of organizational obligations that are based on formal plans that were made at the beginning. Achievement indicators and logical frameworks are important, but their construction needs to happen organically and be agreed upon collectively.

In terms of the achievements and documentation processes that have been carried out, one informant reflected on some useful lessons for the future development of the organization. First, coordination and communication with all of the diverse members of the coalition is challenging. IYCTC continues to strive to be an inclusive place in which all members feel involved. Second, it is important to maintain coalitions with flexible and adaptive organizational forms that can adapt not only to specific situations but also to the specific needs of members; this means that coalitions will constantly need to evolve. To grow further in the future, there needs to be support from the senior generation for paving the way and in providing resources that young people can access and use.

In the future, IYCTC plans to maintain the performance of its newly formed stewardship model and to strengthen the role of administrators and members so that they can be more actively involved. IYCTC will continue its annual agenda, which includes disseminating the P3KT document to a wider range of stakeholders and expanding the scope of its members and networks.

On an issue-by-issue basis, IYCTC sees opportunities for focusing on and researching new intersecting issues, such as e-cigarettes and their impact on the environment, but the coalition also continues its efforts in mainstreaming the issue of tobacco control together with other issues. This is considered crucial because anti-tobacco activism centers upon an issue that is specific and complex but rarely popular to tackle.



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