

WHAT IS EDUCATION FOR?

“Exploring the Dynamic of Educational Development in Rural Jeneponto, Indonesia”

OVERVIEW

The categorization of Jeneponto Regency as one of the disadvantaged area (2015-2020) by the Ministry of Village, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration, Indonesia based on the quality and quantity of Human Resources (HR). Especially at the border, there is a lack of infrastructure, the Natural Resources Management (NRM) is not optimal, and the availability of the base services is still insufficient. In the education sector, the Human Development Index or HDI education in Jeneponto is the lowest in South Sulawesi in 2017. This spurred my interest in doing research by focusing on the emic and etic perspective on how local people understands “education” and view the impact on their lives. Based on these background, I spent four months (09/18–12/18) in Pappalluang Village, which is located 70 km from downtown Jeneponto Regency, Indonesia to do a field research in the formal schools, the community, and the educational organization.

RESEACH QUESTIONS

The main concern of this research project is to explore how the community views education and how important education is to them. I further as, what is the impact on their socio-cultural life of Pappalluang Community, what role do national and global education values play in the local education system and finally, what are the effects its effect of education on the development processes in Rural Jeneponto?

METHOD

- ✓ Structured, semi structured and open-ended interviews with school children, local people, key informants and experts.
- ✓ Participant observation.
- ✓ Literature (Online and offline Newsletter, Journals, ethnological Studies).
- ✓ Photography and videos.

PROVISIONAL RESEARCH RESULTS

There are two main points on how they interpret education as necessary. Education for their children is for their future and as an agricultural region with the majority as farmers, they consider that the work of farmers is menial and puts them in a low social status. - Even though that after taking education, there is no job guarantee, Pappalluang community hopes for the future of their children, e.g working in the government paid directly by the government. - The condition of education leads to complicated social problems. It can be seen that the government paid little attention to the education sector, this shows e.g in the bad condition of the school building with limited facilities, the lack of qualification of teachers and the low salary of the teachers.

EXPECTED OUTPUT

The thesis will generate a report and recommendation to the government, especially to the Jeneponto regency government highlighting the factors that have a negative on the education and schooling practices. This will be including a report on the socio-cultural conditions. Hopefully, this leads to reformed education policies.

Map of Indonesia



Jeneponto, Indonesia
Research Location



The boundary sign of Pappalluang Village. “Selamat datang = Welcome”.



Almost every night, the village youth spend time together. Some of them are senior secondary school students, graduated students, and drop out students.



The students of the Elementary School / SD Negeri 244 Pappalluang are preparing to celebrate the end of the semester by bringing their own food, at this time, they are not required to wear school uniforms.



The students of Junior Secondary School/ SMP Negeri 6 Bangkala Barat are studying in the classroom.



The school building of the Elementary School/ SD Negeri 244 Pappalluang.



Some children are learning to recite Al-Qur’an (Islam Holy Book) in the mosque guided by a religious teacher. This is a part of the non-formal education.