

## The Development of Social Inclusion-Based Library in Pesing Village, Purwoasri District, Kediri, East Java

Ragil Tri Atmi<sup>a)</sup>, Tri Soesantari, Endang Gunarti, Imam Yuadi, Fitri Mutia, Yunus Abdul Halim

Indonesia Departemen Informasi dan Perpustakaan, FISIP, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia

<sup>a)</sup>Corresponding Author: [ragil.tri.atmi@fisip.unair.ac.id](mailto:ragil.tri.atmi@fisip.unair.ac.id)

### Abstract

The development of a social inclusion-based library located in Pesing Village, Purwoasri District, Kediri, can raise the welfare of the local community through the use of the collections provided. In this community service, socialization is given to participants who come from the local community, represented by village officials, teachers, youth organizations, while the material presented is the concept and implementation of Social Inclusion-Based Libraries and how to collection management like make collection subjects, classify collections to choose the right collection. for the community according to their livelihood. The Department of Information and Library of Airlangga University as the organizer of the activity also donated various collections, covering themes of agriculture, plantations, fishery sector development, and many other general themes that can be utilized to develop the economic activities of the local community. Social inclusion through village library services deserves to be counted as the main driving force for all community activities. Through the collections provided by the village library, it is hoped that the community can develop their skills and knowledge to produce a variety of new livelihoods, and have a real impact on improving the welfare of their families. Through the training for village library managers, it was found that their understanding of libraries became wider, including they began to understand how to manage collections in accordance with library management rules.

**Keywords:** Village Library, Social Inclusion, Collection Management

### INTRODUCTION

The implementation of sustainable development programs is currently not only a priority in big cities of Indonesia but has also spread to all rural areas. Without exception, each village is encouraged to be able to compete and develop according to their respective regional conditions towards the development path of the global community, whose impact is definitely experienced by the village community. One form of the efforts of sustainable development is the development of the village library program, which is based on social inclusion. The movement initiated by the National Development Planning Agency (*Bappenas*) and the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia focuses on the development of Libraries in villages or regional areas (Rachman et al., 2019). The idea about the concept of social inclusion in village development is related to the concept of empowerment within the conception of human rights. Empowerment is an activity that attempts to establish independence and human identity for their human resources in the form of the ability and strength to survive, which is obtained through the process of coaching and technical assistance, and guidance. The meaning of empowerment is in line with the conception of social inclusion, which leads to capabilities and resources for marginal-prone communities (Gutama & Widiyahseno, 2020). In the context of the development of libraries, social inclusion is an important matter to be highlighted because it is related to the existence of community empowerment activities, the right to have library services because the community can enrich their knowledge, and the accessibility of library information (Mahdi, 2020; Melanie, 2022).

The development of the community is definitely not only performed through formal education but also through informal activities that provide comparable benefits to improve the ability of each individual. The development of the village library becomes one of the media to expand the opportunities for all levels of society to improve their abilities through informal activities while still being able to perform their routine activities. The provision of a collection of reading materials in the village library is indirectly beneficial for the community to develop creativity, especially in the

economic field. The existence of the village library provides an opportunity for the local community to easily access information related to their needs so that the information can be used to develop their self-potential and the well-being of their family and environment. Based on the 2017 National Library Standard (*SNP*) (Kepala Perpustakaan Nasional Republik Indonesia, 2017), the village library is defined as a library organized by the village/ sub-district government, which has the main task of implementing the development of the library in the village/sub-district area and carrying out library services to the people in general regardless the age, race, religion, socio-economic status, and gender. Thus, the village library provides its services to all groups of people in the village. Likewise, the collections in the library are customized according to the characteristics of the local community with the aim that they have a penchant for reading and utilizing the functions of the library. Currently, there are still village libraries that have not been professionally managed due to limitations in the management, as a result, the community has not utilized them optimally. The lack of knowledge about the functions and objectives of the social-inclusion-based library and the lack of ability to manage has an impact on the services used by the community because without socialization and attractive strategies, the community will be reluctant to visit and use the library.

In various social-inclusion-based libraries, there are still officials that are often found to be passive in promoting their activities, so that people do not think of its necessity, let alone interested in utilizing the library services. These obstacles occur due to the limited competence of the officials, so they lack understanding of managing the library. In order to productively increase the use of the social-inclusion-based library, it is necessary to carry out socialization activities in the community, and intensive and sustainable education for the library officials. The concept of social inclusion needs to be promoted well more to increase awareness from both academics and practitioners to support community empowerment. When all communities have worked hand in hand in empowering each other, an atmosphere will be created where people who like, nurture, and trust each other so that they can easily achieve their goals (Mahdi, 2020). One of the activities that support this matter is the intense socialization of the community regarding the development of social inclusion-based libraries to alert the awareness of the community about the urgency of libraries in supporting their social and economic development. In addition, to improve the ability of officials, there is a need for training so that they can maximize the use of services and collections in the library and can be used as learning resources for the community so that each available collection can be read and studied by the community to increase knowledge, increase insight, form attitudes and behaviors, and develop applied skills that are beneficial for improving their life quality (Keputusan Menteri Dalam Negeri Dan Otonomi Daerah No. 3/2001).

One of the social inclusion-based libraries that is worthy of note is the Pesing Village Library. This library is expected to be used to develop the welfare of its people through literacy activities. Where the literacy activities are able to support the idea of a social inclusion-based library (Husna et al., 2021). According to the Kediri City Population and Civil Registry Office, the information was obtained that in 2018 the total population of Kediri Regency was 292,768 inhabitants, while specifically Pesing Village with an area of 212.20 km<sup>2</sup>, the number of its inhabitants is predicted to continue increasing. The following data shows that from 2018 to 2020, there was an increase in the number of residents, namely 2,127 in 2018, 2,139 in 2019, and 2,151 in 2020 (Cipta-Karya, 2017). The growing number of inhabitants with the various economic and social conditions they face requires attention from local authorities to empower their communities to live more prosperously.

The existence of the library in Kediri is indeed uneven in every region, in fact, in Pesing Village there is no library service available, even though its existence can be one of the important elements to support the improvement of the welfare of the surrounding community. Not only the matter of increasing knowledge but the village library can also be beneficial to the development of the community economy so that eventually it has an impact on increasing the income of Kediri city. Based on data sourced from pillar of neighbors (RT) and pillar of residents (RW) of Kediri Regency in 2010-2030 (Cipta-Karya, 2017) it is known that the economic potential of Purwoasri District of Kediri Regency (including in Pesing Village) includes agricultural and plantation products such as rice, cucumber, tomato, eggplant, red chili, guava, *sawo fruit*, *belinjo* (*gnetum*

*gnemon*), watermelon, papaya, jackfruit, guava, sugar cane, cappuccino, *kenanga* flower. As for other sectors, there are also fisheries, such as public waters, pond cultivation, and livestock sectors such as beef cattle, goats/sheep, and hens. These resources definitely need to be utilized to the fullest extent by developing the ability of the community as the producer of these resources through training in the management of the results they obtain. This aims to improve the welfare of people as their economy increases. This is where the manager of the social inclusion-based library can take a role, as one of the driving wheels of the community economy through the services and collections provided. The activities of technical capability improvement for librarian officials such as analyzing subjects, classifying and selecting library materials (collections) according to interests and livelihoods can support the empowerment of social inclusion-based rural communities, as the whole community can actively develop themselves through the library. The social inclusion-based library is a library that facilitates the community in developing their potential by looking at cultural diversity, willingness to accept change, and offering opportunities to try, protect, and fight for culture and human rights (PERPUSNAS, 2021). The ability of the manager can be processed through their participation in seminars, technical guidance (*bimtek*), and library management workshops.

## METHOD

In this community service program held by the Department of Library and Information Science, Faculty of Social and Political Science, Universitas Airlangga, Pesing Library, located in the Pesing Village, Purwoasri District, Kediri, was chosen as its partner. Based on the information obtained from the observations and the village apparatus, including the head and the officers, the team found that Pesing Village urgently needed a proper and attractive library. It was planned as an effort to provide a place and space for people, especially the villagers, in order to improve their skills in both economic and social fields, so it would be strongly beneficial for their lives and prosperities. By far, the hall of Pesing Village was only often used as a venue to hold several formal activities for the village apparatus. Moreover, it was also found that there were many school-age children who were using the free Wi-Fi installed at this hall. Therefore, in order to increase the use of the hall's facilities, the team thought that it was necessary to provide another public service, such as a library.

Based on the earlier explanation above, the team suggested that the planned library would be more interesting and attractive by facilitating it with modern library furniture, such as minimalist-and-colourful bookshelves and sitting rugs, rather than just being built as an ordinary room. A Wi-Fi connection was also considered an important thing to support the activities as well as make the library a comfortable and fun place to study. Furthermore, this library would also be designed with various services that could be accessed by all villagers, such as reading services, information services, and work-skill development services that were planned as activities to increase the productivity of the villagers toward their business, either existing or new.

As the realization of the plan, the lecturers of the Department of Library and Information Science, Faculty of Social and Political Science, Universitas Airlangga, as the organizer of the program, donated some captivating bookshelves shaped R-E-A-D. Besides, they also renovated the entire room by putting on wallpapers, repainting the corners and ceilings, and placing some sitting rugs. Subsequently, the team conducted public socialization for the villagers and gave guidance to the library administrators about the ways to analyze the subject of collections, do a simple classification, select the relevant collections toward the villagers' needs, and donate a number of collections, such as magazines, comics, novels, agricultural books, etc. The team also organized training activities for the villagers on how to make library card pockets, library check-out cards, and catalogue cards, and how to record collections in ledgers. All the tools and materials, including stationaries, HVS papers, and double folio books, had been prepared by the team. In addition, these activities were attended by 20 villagers, nine lecturers, and four undergraduate students.

In summary, this program was carried out through three stages: preparation, execution, and finalization. Each stage consisted of various activities. The complete stages and activities can be seen in the following table.

**Table 1.** Program Stages and Activities

<b>Stages</b>	<b>Activities</b>
1. Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Managed program permission toward the administrators of both Universitas Airlangga and Pesing Village Library</li> <li>- Exchanged online information with the administrators of Pesing Village Library</li> <li>- Conducted observations and interviews in order to obtain an overview of the village and villagers, and to identify the needs of Pesing Village Library</li> </ul>
2. Execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Designed the library room by using social inclusion-based design</li> <li>- Provided public socialization toward the villagers related to the social inclusion-based library</li> <li>- Organized training activities for the library administrators on how to analyse subjects and classify collections</li> </ul>
3. Finalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitored the training activities of the villagers</li> <li>- Wrote a program report</li> <li>- Arranged a financial report</li> <li>- Conducted a final-report seminar</li> </ul>

Furthermore, in order to find out the participants' levels of understanding after joining both socialization and training activities, the team carried out two tests, namely pre-test and post-test, that were designed by using self-administered questionnaire models. Both tests were conducted by giving questionnaires to several villagers who participated in the activities. The results of the tests were used as the data to describe changes in the participants' levels of understanding and portray the benefits of the activities for the villagers and library administrators.

## **RESULTS**

The establishment of the social inclusion-based library in Pesing Village is intended to improve the Pesing villagers' understanding, knowledge, and skills. With the emergence of the upgraded knowledge and skills owned, the villagers are expected to be able to think creatively and find new ways to create a prosperous standard of living. Through the idea of social inclusion in managing the Pesing library, it allows all levels of society, especially Pesing villagers, to fulfill their information and knowledge needs, for example, they can develop agricultural and farming techniques, manage aquaculture products, and generate new innovations in new fields of work by attending some training or reading the collections provided. Therefore, as an effort to support the library, the team of the community service program donated a number of books (Picture 1) and eye-catching bookshelves forming the letters R-E-A-D (Picture 2) so that they can be used by the library users to gain a substantial amount of information.

Moreover, public socialization about the social inclusion-based library was also held. There were 20 participants, consisting of village apparatus, elementary and junior high school teachers, and youth from Pesing Village. It should be noted that all participants who took part in this socialization had never participated in other socializations about the social inclusion-based library or library management. Their knowledge of the library was only limited to those things they had received from their daily interactions and previous education, either in elementary school, high school, or higher education. Picture 3 and Picture 4 show us the situation of socialization and material presentation related to the steps or ways of analysing the subject of the collections and doing a simple classification. These two skills are expected to be studied well by the library administrators in order to manage the library collections properly and in accordance with the existing library rules and regulations in Indonesia.

Based on both pre-test and post-test questionnaires addressed to some of the villagers about the importance of the existence of this social inclusion-based library in Pesing Village, it can be seen that all of the respondents agreed that the library has become a significant thing to exist around them. Two people (10%) answered "very important," 18 people (90%) answered



“important,” and no one answered “unimportant.” Hence, these facts show that the villagers have already understood and acknowledged that the existence of the village library, especially the social inclusion-based library, is very significant for them to learn and gain more knowledge and information. Furthermore, the villagers have also found a wider role for the library; they use it as a gathering place for the communities around it, a place to work and do some activities together, and a place to socialize and thrive for lifelong learning, rather than utilizing it only as a place to study and borrow books. This is shown from the answers given to the distributed questionnaires related to the desired directions for the Pesing Village Library. 17 out of 20 (85%) respondents wanted a library that could act as a complete package, for instance, as a place to learn, borrow books, share new information and knowledge, gather, socialize, and grow together, either in the economic, social, or cultural scopes, and only 3 out of 20 (15%) respondents still adhered to the traditional roles of the library: only as a place to borrow books, learn, and share knowledge. In summary, these desired directions are considerably substantial to do and definitely in accordance with the program developed by the national library, which is to create a social inclusion-based library.

To realize social inclusion-based library, a good library that is able to support the program is required. Therefore, library manager who can manage the library well is needed. It can be seen from the training activities that, although they have never received any training related to library, they already know the simple ways of how to manage a library well. This can be proven by their level of understanding regarding library management such as inventory, collection development, collection procession, classification as well as subjects and loan and returns service. Based on the questionnaire distributed during pre-test, three of the training participants (15%) knew about the functions and duties well, 12 participants (60%) are only familiar with the functions and duties, and five participants (25%) have lack of knowledge regarding the functions and duties. Then, there were changes in the number after the training (post-test). There were five participants (25%) understood very well, 12 participants (60%) were just introduced, and the number of people that does not understand well decrease to three participants (15%).

In order to support the library movement as a social inclusion-based library, a qualified highly motivated manager who understands their roles and duties is indeed necessary. According to the result of the questionnaire, a militant manager to carry out his duties was not yet found. This is because there is none who wants to be permanent manager as well as temporary donors and the driving force of the library. There were three people (15%) stated that they wanted to be volunteers to support the development of the library, be the library’s active members. Then, there were 11 people (55%) that wants to be the library’s active member and volunteers. Lastly, there six people (30%) that only wants to be the library’s active member. In the closing session, photographs of the participants and the service team were taken for documentation (Picture 5).

The concept of social inclusion has been presented by the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion in the United Kingdom since 2002 as an attempt to ensure that everyone, regardless of their experiences and conditions, is able to achieve the potentials expected in their life (Man, 2007). Then, in 2004, European Commission has published a report on social inclusion that gives detailed illustration by further explaining what aspects needed to be considered for a person to be able to reach those potentials. Social inclusion is a process that ensures that people who are at risk of experiencing poverty and social exclusion have the opportunities and resources needed to fully participate in the economic, social, and cultural fields and enjoy a standard of living and well-being that is considered normal in the communities they live in. In the context of social inclusion-based library, library is not only defined as a place to write and read, but also as a means to develop the community’s potential (Purwantini et al., 2021).

There are quite a number of the conditions of the community that need to be considered in realizing social inclusion in library. Those conditions include people of the community that are at risk of experiencing social loss or marginalization, limited space to live in, the disabilities, the elders, and several races and ethnics that are regarded as the disadvantaged groups. Several studies have been done to show how those groups of community need to be the attention of library manager. Therefore, they can live a life like communities in general. Beginning in 1997, the United Kingdom has made social inclusion the foundation in making national policies that oblige

all individuals to obey them. In 2003, the United Kingdom declared the mission of public libraries to provide digital services and skills, promote reading and learning, and promote social inclusion to the society (Zeng, 2015). Furthermore, Zeng (2015) explained that several scientists also contributed in proposing social inclusion theory in library such as Birdi (2011) who studied the formation and development of the concept of social inclusion in public library. Ina Fourier (2007) also explained the important values of social inclusion and discussed how the concept of social inclusion are implemented in public library service. Another study, according to Zeng (2015) as stated by Pateman (2011), suggested that every country fulfil their societies' needs and promote inclusive diversities, so it would erase the possibilities of social exclusion. Similarly, Vincent (2011) analyzed the negative impacts based on the modern social economy factors, based on the perspectives of elderlies, and suggested the library to be able to reflect the characteristics of social inclusion. On the other hand, Linley (2011) stated that disabilities are the most vulnerable group to experience exclusion from public services. Hence, library must take the initiative to find a way to provide access to resources owned by the library.

Social inclusion can be implemented through activities in the village library that is one of the important elements for the development of the whole villagers due to its role in involving all groups in the community. As is known, village library has large resources due to its existence that is surrounded by the community. Therefore, it is local and has the potential to be utilized for various users. Village library is a public service that can directly interact and benefit the local community without exception. There is no public service that has better potential than a village library to establish an environment that supports social inclusion.

The increasing of capacity and skill in managing library is very important to be done because good management is expected to optimize the utilization of village library in which in the end can improve the villagers's knowledge. The development of Pesing village library is held through technical trainings by the library such as learning how to choose library materials according to the local community's needs, analyzing the collection subject owned by the library, learning how to classify collections analyzed so they are arranged properly on the bookshelf available, as well as sharing the knowledge to library managers so they can invent strategies to attract the Pesing villagers' interest to utilize the library's service. This effort needs to be supported by providing comfortable and proper facilities and infrastructure to be used by community in their activities in the library. Picture 6 shows the process of opening ceremony of the village's social inclusion-based library room that was held before socialization and training. Hopefully, these activities can continue and become one of the fostered villages of Department of Library and Information Science Faculty of Social and Political Science Universitas Airlangga.

The sustainability of this community service, particularly in order to maintain the consistency of the Pesing village library in providing optimal library service needs to be pursued. This can be obtained by increasing their knowledge and skills in managing the village library so the library does not only become a collection storage room without any beneficial activities. For example, by always participating in the trainings or seminars related to the development of library held by official institutions.

## **CONCLUSIONS And RECOMMENDATIONS**

The program that has been implemented at the Pesing Village Library was welcomed by the library manager and the villagers. The Village's Social Inclusion-based Library Development Program is an idea where the villagers including village apparatus, teachers, as well as the youths' organization play the role and are involved in the empowerment of the library. This program was expected to be able to improve technical skills on subject analysis and the classification of the village's library managers. Furthermore, this program was also created to support community empowerment through collections in the village libraries that are able to provide knowledge useful for work and improving the quality of life of the communities in Pesing Village. Thus, the sustainability of the village library is supported by all parties in Pesing Village including the village apparatus, youths' community, the women of communal Qur'an reading, the women of family welfare women, and general community.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to thank the authorities of Pesing Village, Purwoasri District, Kediri for their supports and cooperation in implementing the Village's Social Inclusion-based Library Program in Pesing Village, Purwoasri District, Kediri, East Java.

## REFERENCES

- Cipta-Karya. (2017). *Kegiatan Penyusunan Updating Rencana Terpadu Dan Program Investasi Infrastruktur Jangka Menengah (Rpi2-Jm) Tahun 2017*. [http://sippa.ciptakarya.pu.go.id/sippa\\_online/ws\\_file/dokumen/rpi2jm/DOCRPIJM\\_bcc4001152\\_BAB II002. Bab 2 Profil Kabupaten Kediri.pdf](http://sippa.ciptakarya.pu.go.id/sippa_online/ws_file/dokumen/rpi2jm/DOCRPIJM_bcc4001152_BAB II002. Bab 2 Profil Kabupaten Kediri.pdf)
- Gutama, P. P. B., & Widiyahseno, B. (2020). Inklusi Sosial Dalam Pembangunan Desa. *Reformasi*, 10(1), 70–80. <https://doi.org/10.33366/rfr.v10i1.1834>
- Husna, A. N., Yuliani, D., Rachmawati, T., Anggraini, D. E., Anwar, R., & Utomo, R. (2021). Program Literasi Digital untuk Pengembangan Perpustakaan Berbasis Inklusi Sosial di Desa Sedayu, Muntilan, Magelang. *Community Empowerment*, 6(2), 156–166. <https://doi.org/10.31603/ce.4259>
- Kepala Perpustakaan Nasional Republik Indonesia. (2017). *Peraturan Kepala Perpustakaan Nasional Republik Indonesia Nomor 6 Tahun 2017 Tentang Standar Nasional Perpustakaan Desa/Kelurahan*. [https://jdih.perpusnas.go.id/file\\_peraturan/Perka\\_6\\_2017\\_SNP\\_Perpustakaan\\_Desa\\_salinan.pdf](https://jdih.perpusnas.go.id/file_peraturan/Perka_6_2017_SNP_Perpustakaan_Desa_salinan.pdf)
- Mahdi, R. (2020). Perpustakaan Umum Berbasis Inklusi Sosial: Apa dan Bagaimana Penerapannya? (Sebuah Kajian Literatur). *Fihris: Jurnal Ilmu Perpustakaan Dan Informasi*, 15(2), 201. <https://doi.org/10.14421/fhrs.2020.152.201-215>
- Man, T. H. (2007). Social inclusion and public libraries: Is the ability to empathise an essential attribute for community librarians to better serve their ethnic minority users? A case study of Highfield Library and its Chinese community, The University of Sheffield. *Theses The University of Sheffield*.
- Melanie, Forrest. (2022). Public Libraries and the Social Inclusion of Homeless People: A Literature Review. *Canadian Journal for Information Science Students and Early Career Professionals*, 3(1), 64–80. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.29173/pathfinder52>
- PERPUSNAS. (2021). *Kesejahteraan melalui Transformasi Perpustakaan Berbasis Inklusi Sosial*. <https://www.perpusnas.go.id/news-detail.php?lang=id&id=210323055234TrsSk35LQu>
- Purwantini, A. H., Aziza, D. A., Kurniawan, A. B., Azizah, F. N., Utami, W. I., & Anggitasari, F. (2021). Optimalisasi Peran Perpustakaan Desa Donorojo Berbasis Inklusi Sosial Guna Meningkatkan Kualitas Hidup Masyarakat. *Community Empowerment*, 6(3), 480–485. <https://doi.org/10.31603/ce.4348>
- Rachman, Rani Auliawati, Dadang Suguiana, R. (2019). Strategi Sukses Transformasi Perpustakaan Desa Berbasis Inklusi Sosial untuk Masyarakat Sejahtera (Studi Pada Perpustakaan Desa Gampingan Gemar Membaca Malang). *Seminar Nasional MACOM III: Universitas Padjadjaran*.
- Zeng, Y. (2015). Practical Research of Social Inclusion in the Library Public Cultural Service,. *Cross-Cultural Communication*, Vol. 11, N(10), 54–57.

**APPENDIX**



**Figure 1.** Grant Books



**Figure 2.** R-E-A-D Bookshelves



**Figure 4.** Participants of the Training who Applied Social-and-



**Figure 3.** Socialization and Training about Analysing Subjects and Classifying Collections



**Figure 6.** Opening Ceremony of Pesing Village Library



**Figure 5.** Participants and Team