KADARKUM: The legal awareness program for enhancing citizen engagement in supporting rural development

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Article History

Received on 1 November 2023 1st Revision on 3 January 2024 Accepted on 4 January 2024

Abstract

Purpose: This study aimed to assess the role of the KADARKUM program in enhancing citizens' legal awareness to support rural development.

Research Methodology: This study uses a qualitative approach and employs a literature review method to analyze the existing literature related to legal awareness improvement and citizen engagement in village development. It involves an in-depth review of the relevant literature to understand the factors influencing legal awareness among rural communities, effective strategies for enhancing legal awareness, and the benefits of citizen engagement in promoting rural development.

Results: The findings indicate that enhancing legal awareness through the KADARKUM programme has the potential to increase citizen engagement in supporting rural development.

Limitations: This study was limited to a literature review and did not include original data collection or empirical research in a specific location.

Contributions: This study provides valuable insights into the significance of improving legal awareness as a foundational step in fostering citizen engagement to support rural development. The implications of this study can be used to formulate effective policies and intervention programs for community development.

Novelty: The novelty of this study lies in its focus on the KADARKUM programme as a potential mechanism to strengthen legal awareness and citizen engagement in the context of rural development.

Keywords: KADARKUM, Legal Awareness, SDGs, Rural

How to Cite: Pradanna, S. A., Irawan, H., Fajriani, S. N., and Bestari, P. (2023). KADARKUM: A legal awareness program for enhancing citizen engagement in supporting rural development. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism and Entrepreneurship*, 5(2), 145-157.

1. Introduction

The era of globalization, marked by progress in information and technology, affects not only tangible aspects but also influences the social and cultural dimensions of human existence (Anadza & Pasopati, 2021). Rural development is one of the key objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for several compelling reasons. Villages are an integral part of a country's social and economic structures. Rural development has a comprehensive positive impact on community quality of life, encompassing economic, social, and environmental aspects. The involvement of the community in supporting rural development is crucial because they are the primary stakeholders in their respective areas. The community possesses extensive knowledge of the social, economic, and environmental conditions of the village. By engaging the community in decision-making processes and implementing development programs, decisions will be more targeted and able to meet the real needs of the community. Community involvement also strengthens their sense of ownership of village development,

thereby fostering a higher commitment among citizens to preserve and maintain the outcomes of such development efforts.

Rural development endeavors to achieve sustainable development at the village level. It aims to enhance the quality of life of rural communities while considering social, economic, and environmental aspects. Rural development is also seen as a means of attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Hariyoko, 2022). SDGs are a set of sustainable development goals established by the United Nations to be achieved by 2030. The SDGs consist of 17 goals encompassing various aspects of development, including poverty alleviation, health, education, gender equality, and the environment. Rural development is one of the means to achieve several SDGs, such as Goal 1 (poverty eradication), Goal 2 (food security), Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and Goal 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions) (Astuti & Pangesti, 2022). Several studies have highlighted the significance of community engagement in rural development (Asyiawati, Hindersah, & Putri, 2021).

Citizen engagement can be accomplished through active participation in decision-making, execution of development initiatives, and realization of developmental outcomes (Semara & Saputra, 2020). Community participation can be fostered through the dissemination of information and collection of data concerning development plans, along with providing insightful guidance and support to the community during the pre-development stage (Semara & Saputra, 2020). Community engagement in rural development can positively impact the quality of life of the community (Pradanna, Abdulkarim, Malihah, & Hidayat, 2023), and participation in rural development can lead to economic improvement for the community and enhance the village's competitiveness in the tourism industry (Wahyuningsih & Kirono, 2023).

The limited awareness of legal matters in the community poses a challenge to their engagement in supporting rural development. Several factors contributed to this low legal awareness. First, inadequate legal education can lead to a lack of understanding of the applicable legal regulations and individual rights. Consequently, individuals may struggle to assert their rights and navigate legal boundaries effectively (Kurnia & Tundjung, 2019). Insufficient access to legal information further compounds the issue, as individuals may not be aware of the existing legal regulations and their rights. This lack of knowledge hampers their ability to advocate for their rights and avoid actions that violate the law (Pamungkas, 2021).

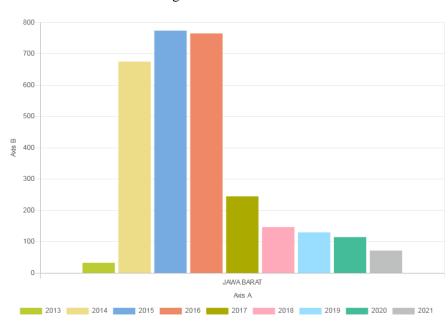


Table 1. Number of Law Awareness Villages in West Java

Source: Open Data West Java

The number of villages with legal awareness (Desa Sadar Hukum) in West Java declined from 2013 to 2021. According to records from the Provincial Secretariat of West Java, in 2013, there were 33 Legal Awareness Villages in the province. The number then significantly increased to 675 in 2014 and reached its peak in 2015, with 774 legally aware villages. However, there has been a significant decrease since that time. In 2016, the number of villages with legal awareness dropped to 765 and continued to decline to 245 in 2017. The downward trend continued with 147 villages recorded in 2018, 130 in 2019, 115 in 2020, and finally, only 72 Legal Awareness Villages were recorded in 2021. This decline indicates the presence of challenges in enhancing legal awareness in West Java, which need to be addressed seriously to support rural development.

The decrease in the number of villages with legal awareness in West Java from 2013 to 2021 indicates a significant impact on rural development. Villages with legal awareness serve as an indicator of the level of legal awareness among communities in a particular region. The higher the number of villages with legal awareness, the greater the legal awareness among the communities in those villages. The impact of this decline in legal awareness can be observed in the reduced participation of communities in rural development activities. Low legal awareness implies that communities have limited understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities. This lack of understanding can hinder their ability to actively engage in implementing sustainable development programs, such as sustainable natural resource management, improved access to public services, and environmental conservation, which are not aligned with the goal of SDG 16: Peace, justice, and strong institutions (Astuti & Pangesti, 2022). Moreover, the decline in legal awareness also impacts the quality of decision making, which in turn affects village development. When communities lack a sufficient understanding of the law, they may not be able to effectively advocate for their rights and participate in decision-making processes related to village development. This can result in decisions that do not align with the interests of the local community and may undermine efforts towards sustainable development.

The increase in legal awareness helps communities understand their rights, fulfill legal responsibilities, and actively participate in decision-making processes that impact the village. This directly supports rural development by ensuring that communities have greater access to justice, environmental sustainability, and improved quality of life. Accordingly, it is essential to enhance the community's understanding of legal responsibilities. By increasing legal awareness in the community, they will have a better understanding of their legal responsibilities and be better equipped to fulfill them. This can help ensure that communities refrain from engaging in unlawful activities and promoting rural development (Ronsumbre & Ihsannudin, 2021). Legal awareness aims to help communities understand the importance of rural development and encourages their active involvement in rural development programs. By raising legal awareness, communities can gain a deeper understanding of the significance of rural development and recognize the benefits it brings to their lives and the environment. This understanding motivates them to actively participate in and support various sustainable development initiatives and programs at the village level. By being aware of their rights, responsibilities, and the potential impact of their actions, communities can effectively contribute to the achievement of rural development goals (Iskandar, 2020).

KADARKUM (*Keluarga Sadar Hukum* or Legal Awareness Family) is one of the programs aimed at increasing community awareness of the importance of the law. This program aims to enhance legal awareness among communities through socialization, education, and the intensive guidance provided to each family. The programme is expected to assist communities in understanding their rights, fulfilling legal responsibilities, and actively participating in decision-making processes that impact their villages. Implementing this program is intended to empower families with the knowledge and understanding of the law, enabling them to make informed decisions and contribute effectively to the development of their village (Laskarwati, 2018; Sugiarti & Andyanto, 2021). The KADARKUM program provides socialization and education to the community. (Laskarwati, 2018). In line with this, the KADARKUM program can help communities understand the importance of sustainable development, ensure that rural development programs are effective, and meet the needs of the community.

Engaging the community in the rural development process can enhance program effectiveness through a better understanding of the community's needs, expectations, and identification of issues that need to be addressed. Furthermore, community involvement has the potential to stimulate the creation of relevant local innovations that align with the conditions and needs of villages. By involving the community in rural development programs, the programs will become more effective as the community gains a deeper understanding of their village's needs and challenges. This ensures that the implemented development programs are aligned with the community's needs and are effective in achieving rural development (Pamungkas, 2021). Furthermore, engaging communities in rural development programs can foster the creation of local innovation. The community gains a deeper understanding of their village's conditions and potential, enabling them to generate solutions tailored to their specific needs and circumstances. By involving the community, the programmes tap into local knowledge and expertise, leading to the development of innovative approaches and strategies that are more contextually relevant and effective in addressing the challenges faced by the village. This participatory approach empowers the community to become active agents of change and drivers of sustainable development in their own locality (Wadu, Ladamay, & Bandut, 2020).

Based on the aforementioned points, this study aims to explore the role of the KADARKUM program in strengthening the legal awareness of the community in supporting rural development. Aligned with the objectives of sustainable development, which encompasses peace, justice, and strong institutions, the current legal awareness among the community is still low, resulting in a limited understanding of their rights and responsibilities. Consequently, community engagement in supporting development efforts is hindered. Therefore, this research is of utmost importance in understanding the role of the KADARKUM program in enhancing the legal awareness of the community as a crucial step towards increasing community involvement in supporting rural development. By reinforcing legal awareness, the KADARKUM programme has the potential to enhance community engagement in supporting rural development. The findings of this study are expected to provide a foundation for the formulation of effective policies and intervention programs aimed at strengthening community involvement and fostering rural development.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Legal Awareness

Legal awareness is an abstract concept within individuals, encompassing the alignment between desired tranquility and order with the tranquility and order that should prevail (Soekanto, 2004). According to Warasih (Silviana, 2012) legal awareness is defined as an individual's consciousness to act in accordance with applicable laws. Essentially, societal legal awareness serves as a bridge connecting legal regulations with the legal behavior of community members. In this context, societal legal awareness refers to the awareness of community members to uphold the law and act in accordance with it willingly as they perceive the law to align with their internal values. Legal awareness is closely related to compliance. Awareness of what the law entails signifies an understanding that the law serves as protection for human interests, because the law is a system designed to protect human interests (Ahmad, 2018), At a certain point, legal awareness is expected to encourage individuals to comply with and execute or refrain from what is prohibited and commanded by the law (Hasibuan, 2016) Furthermore, Warasih asserts that regardless of the sense of law, legal compliance is the concretization of legal rules in behavior (Silviana, 2012). Thus, individuals who comply with the law do not necessarily demonstrate that the law aligns with their internal values, nor does their compliance absolutely indicate satisfaction with the legal rules. As legal actors, members of society should be committed to building the existing legal system within the community. Their roles as both subjects and objects of the law are expected to contribute to the establishment of security and order in accordance with the intended goals of the law (Irawan, Sundawa, & Masyitoh, 2023).

Fundamentally, obedience to the law is inseparable from legal awareness; good legal awareness entails compliance with the law, while a lack of legal awareness entails non-compliance (Hasibuan, 2016). Silviana (2012) emphasizes that legal awareness is correlated with legal compliance. Individuals who possess legal awareness tend to adhere to the legal provisions that they are aware of (based on their

values). It can be said that a legally aware society consists of law-abiding individuals who comply with the law not out of coercion or fear of sanctions but because they have a genuine understanding of the law. To reach the stage of legal compliance, members of society must first attain a level of legal understanding and have a mindset that is ready to choose legal norms as the basis for their behavior (Ernis, 2018), which is a manifestation of legal awareness. As individuals who merely have legal awareness do not necessarily translate it into action by obeying the law, legal awareness remains a mere value. Legal awareness becomes evident only when accompanied by legal compliance (Ahmad, 2018; Isnina & Wajdi, 2018; Munna & Prayogi, 2021; Purwanti, Mahfud, Widjaningsih, & Setiawan, 2021; Rosana, 2014).

2.2 Civic Engagement

Citizen engagement refers to how citizens participate in community life to improve the conditions of others or contribute to shaping the future of society (Gusmadi, 2018). Civic engagement is an essential component of a democratic society in which sovereignty and ultimate power reside in the hands of people (Nuruddin, 2021). Citizen engagement is one of the most crucial elements in community life as it has the potential to generate various positive contributions to society. When citizens actively participate in their communities, they play a significant role in shaping and improving the social fabric. Engagement can lead to positive outcomes that benefit the community (Pradanna et al., 2023). Community engagement can take various forms, including participation in politics, governance, education, science and technology, social welfare, national defense, religion, and sociocultural activities (Nuruddin, 2021). Civic engagement can contribute to addressing various social issues in the community, such as improving the economic well-being of rural residents through the establishment of Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) (Nurcahya, 2019) It can also involve activities that promote community well-being (Gusmadi, 2018), Such as strengthening environmental awareness (Chapman, 2022), Furthermore, community engagement can involve efforts to combat the spread of Covid-19 (Fitrayadi & Rahman, 2020). Community engagement can be enhanced through social capital, which encompasses trust, mutual understanding, and shared values that bind group members (Nugraha & Hermita, 2019).

2.3 Sustainable Development

According to Emil Salim (in Rahadian (2016), Sustainable Development aims to enhance the well-being of society and fulfill human needs and aspirations. Sustainable development essentially seeks to achieve equitable development between generations, both in the present and future. Abdoellah (2016) states that by mainstreaming the concept of sustainable development, the market not only provides socioeconomic benefits to businesses and communities dependent on natural resources but also advocates for the preservation of those resources. Therefore, Sustainable Development consists of 17 goals, including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Strong Institutions and Peace, and Partnerships for the Goals (Ishatono & Raharjo, 2016) The focus of this study is on Goal 16, which is Strong Institutions and Peace. Enhancing peace, including within communities, for sustainable development involves providing access to justice to all, including institutions that are accountable and responsible to all members of society, as well as building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels (Ishatono & Raharjo, 2016). The realization of peace can be achieved through legal consciousness. Every individual has their own needs and interests that often conflict with one another, leading to imbalances or disharmony in society. In this context, rules governing human interaction, known as law, are needed within society. The role of legal consciousness in society, just as the purpose of law itself, is to ensure certainty and justice (Rosana, 2014). With the existence of law and legal consciousness in the populace, each individual understands their respective roles, thereby creating order, harmony, and peace within the community. This is also supported by the role of strong judicial institutions that remain independent of various interventions and enjoy high levels of public trust. Furthermore, the government is obligated to safeguard and uphold sovereignty, as well as protect every citizen from threats, both domestic and foreign (Hermawan, Respationo, Erniyanti, & Fadlan, 2022).



Figure 1. The symbol for the 17 Sustainable Development Source: sdgs.bappenas.go.id

3. Research Methodology

This research adopts a qualitative approach (Yuliari & Riyadi, 2019), with a literature review method to analyze the literature related to the improvement of legal awareness and community engagement in village development. The qualitative approach is a research method used to understand social phenomena in depth and detail (Neuman, 2017). The qualitative approach was chosen because the main objective of this research was to understand the role of the KADARKUM program in strengthening community legal awareness and to analyze the factors influencing legal awareness in rural communities that affect community engagement in supporting rural development. The Literature Review method involves collecting, evaluating, and synthesizing relevant literature or references related to the research topic under investigation (Neuman, 2017). Through a comprehensive review of the literature, this study aimed to gain a deeper understanding of the factors influencing legal awareness in rural communities that affect community engagement in promoting rural development. This research focuses on West Java, Indonesia. Additionally, the assumption used in this study is that increasing community legal awareness contributes to their engagement in supporting rural development. During this research, the author identified and collected relevant literature from various sources such as scholarly journals, books, research reports, and reputable electronic sources. The collected data were then qualitatively analyzed by synthesizing, comparing, and evaluating relevant findings.

4. Results and discussions

4.1 The increase in legal awareness through the KADARKUM program

Keluarga Sadar Hukum (KADARKUM) is a platform aimed at gathering community members who voluntarily strive to enhance their legal awareness because the government is vested with the authority to create and enforce laws and regulations within a specific jurisdiction (Ferdaus & Zaimasuri, 2023). KADARKUM operates at the national, provincial, and district/city levels, and membership is open to individuals regardless of age, sex, occupation, education level, or other criteria. This inclusive program can be accessed by anyone else. KADARKUM is nurtured by the Minister of Law and Human Rights, the Head of BPHN, the Head of Legal Outreach Division, the Head of Legal Bureau of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Prosecutor's Office, the Police, the Ministry of Communication and Informatics, and representatives from social and religious organizations at the national level. At the provincial level, KADARKUM is nurtured by the Governor, the Head of Regional Office of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, the Head of Legal Bureau of the Provincial Government, the Prosecutor's Office, the Police, and representatives from social and religious organizations. At the district/city level,

KADARKUM is nurtured by the Regent/Mayor, the Head of the Legal Department of the District/City Government, the Deputy Prosecutor, the Police, and representatives from social and religious organizations.

KADARKUM represents an effort to enhance legal awareness, starting from the smallest unit of society, which is the family. Therefore, the purpose and function of establishing KADARKUM is to inform and improve legal awareness of the rights and obligations of Indonesian citizens, ultimately creating a lawabiding and compliant society. The implementation of KADARKUM involves legal outreach activities, such as socialization, legal awareness gatherings, simulations, and legal awareness competitions. Legal outreach is carried out with the aim of achieving better legal awareness in the community, where every member realizes and understands their rights and obligations as citizens and cultivates a legal culture characterized by conscious, obedient, and compliant attitudes and behaviors, as well as respect for human rights. The legal topics covered in these outreach activities include laws and regulations at both national and regional levels.

Legal outreach is conducted in a persuasive manner, where legal educators must be able to convince targeted community members, making them interested and attentive to the information conveyed. Additionally, legal outreach should be conducted in an educational manner, where legal educators act as patient and persistent educators who guide community members towards the goals of legal outreach. Communication is also an essential aspect of legal outreach, as legal educators should be able to communicate effectively and create an atmosphere conducive to open, reciprocal, and accommodating discussions. Accommodation involves the ability to understand and provide easily comprehensible solutions to legal issues raised by the community.

Various forms of legal outreach within the KADARKUM program, such as discussions, socialization sessions, KADARKUM competitions, and legal consultations, aim to change human behavior through an educational approach, namely, by providing non-formal education to the community. Through this legal outreach, individuals are expected to become aware of their respective obligations within the community, leading to daily behaviors aligned with prevailing norms and social interactions. Therefore, legal outreach can potentially increase legal awareness among communities through education. This is supported by Sulfinadia (2020), who states that the knowledge and understanding of the law among the public influences legal awareness. Similarly, Ali (2021) suggested that the enhancement of legal awareness should be achieved through well-planned legal enlightenment and outreach. The goal of legal outreach is for community members to acquire knowledge and understanding of specific laws (Ali, 2021) The knowledge and understanding of the law by the community fulfill the indicators of legal awareness as proposed by Soerjono Soekanto, which include knowledge, understanding, attitudes, and legal behavior (Sulfinadia, 2020). This is further supported by the National Development Planning Agency (GBHN), which states that the aim of legal outreach is to achieve a high level of legal awareness within society (Prasetya & Silvia, 2021).

In addition to legal outreach, the KADARKUM programme enhances legal awareness through the role of mentors who are responsible for fostering and increasing legal awareness among their assigned members. Mentors provide ongoing guidance and offer admonishments to KADARKUM members who do not comply with the rules and regulations of the KADARKUM meetings through their respective group leaders. Thus, the mentor's role has an impact on subsequent indicators of legal awareness, namely attitudes and legal behavior. Therefore, legal awareness in the community can be enhanced through various methods of implementing the KADARKUM program and the role of mentors within KADARKUM.

4.2 The Impact of Legal Awareness on Sustainable Development Involvement

Rural development poses a complex challenge that requires active citizen participation to achieve development goals at the village level. Accordingly, increasing legal awareness among citizens can play a crucial role in promoting citizen engagement in supporting rural development. Legal awareness

provides an understanding of citizens' rights, obligations and responsibilities related to rural development.

Legal awareness can positively influence citizen participation in support of rural development. Legal awareness is the consciousness of individuals or communities regarding the prevailing regulations or laws, without any external pressure, coercion, or instruction, to conform to and comply with the applicable laws (Munna & Prayogi, 2021). Increased legal awareness of citizens has a significant impact on supporting rural development. With a better understanding of the law and legal system in place, citizens become more conscious of their rights as individuals, including the right to participate in decision-making processes that affect their villages (Musjtari, 2018).

A higher level of legal awareness among citizens can also create a more conducive environment for law enforcement and protection of people's rights in rural development. Therefore, with a deep understanding of the law, citizens are more likely to respect existing rules, prevent violations, and report unlawful actions to authorities. This will contribute to the establishment of justice, security, and stability within the village community, ultimately supporting comprehensive rural development.

This legal awareness is related to citizen engagement, where the community increasingly understands and recognizes the importance of balancing rights and responsibilities, can resolve conflicts peacefully (Musjtari, 2018), and will also understand their obligations in maintaining environmental sustainability (Rachman et al., 2023), support social welfare, and protect the rights of others (Munna & Prayogi, 2021). Increased legal awareness also provides citizens with confidence to engage in rural development activities. Citizens will be more courageous in expressing their opinions, proposing ideas, and participating in village deliberations and other participatory forums. Therefore, a strong legal understanding aligns with citizens who can effectively contribute to the planning and implementation of sustainable development programs such as fulfilling their tax obligations.

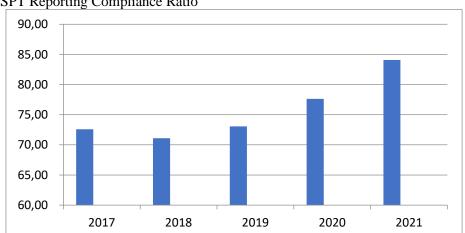


Table 2. Tax SPT Reporting Compliance Ratio

Source: Website Directorate General of Taxes, Indonesia.

The compliance level of Indonesian citizens in filing Annual Tax Returns (SPT) and paying taxes has shown an upward trend over the past five years. The Directorate General of Taxes (DJP) recorded a taxpayer compliance ratio of 84.07% in reporting Annual Tax Returns in 2021, with a total of 15.9 million filings out of 19 million taxpayers. Looking back at five years, the compliance ratio was 72.58% in 2017. However, in 2018, the tax compliance ratio decreased to 71.1%, with only 12.55 million individuals paying taxes out of 17.65 million taxpayers. In 2019, the compliance ratio increased again to 73.06%, with 13.39 million individuals filing Annual Tax Returns out of 18.33 million taxpayers. Furthermore, in 2020, the tax compliance ratio rose to 78%, and the following year it increased further to 84.07%.

In line with the tax compliance ratio, which indicates the implications of legal awareness on sustainable development, the increasing level of compliance among Indonesian citizens in filing Annual Tax Returns and paying taxes over the past five years demonstrates the connection between legal awareness and sustainable development. The Directorate General of Taxes (DJP) has recorded a taxpayer compliance ratio of 84.07% in reporting Annual Tax Returns in 2021, with a total of 15.9 million filings out of 19 million taxpayers. When examining data from the past five years, the tax compliance ratio has consistently shown improvements year after year. Jefri Indriyansyah (N.H, 2016) stated that paying taxes has several benefits, including serving as a source of government revenue to finance its expenditures, serving as a tool to regulate or implement government policies in social and economic fields, increasing citizens' active participation in village development activities, improving the welfare of society through government programs funded by taxes, and enhancing investor confidence in investing in Indonesia due to the legal certainty and economic stability resulting from stable tax revenues.

The condition of tax payment awareness demonstrates that legal awareness plays a crucial role in sustainable development, where citizens' awareness and compliance in paying taxes contribute to nation-building. Through tax payments, citizens provide a source of income for the government to finance its expenditures and implement policies in social and economic sectors. Additionally, it increases citizens' active participation in village development activities, improves society's welfare through government programs funded by taxes, and builds investor confidence in investing in Indonesia due to the resulting legal certainty and economic stability from stable tax revenues. Legal awareness of timely and compliant tax payments represents a concrete effort by citizens to support rural development.

4.3 Implications of the KADARKUM Program in the Context of Rural Development

Every country in the world aims to achieve prosperity, but the methods and efforts to achieve that prosperity can vary. Theocratic states aim to facilitate their people by providing guarantees and opportunities for every citizen to achieve their ultimate life goals in accordance with the teachings and guidance of their respective religions. Political states aim to achieve national prosperity by placing full responsibility on realizing prosperity in the state. Legal states aim to achieve individual prosperity by placing responsibility for prosperity on each individual, and the state does not interfere with economic activities (Purwanti et al., 2021). In an effort to achieve the prosperity of a nation, there is a need for regulations to bind and govern life in order to create a peaceful and harmonious society. After the existence of regulations, there is a need for socialization and implementation in daily life to create a society that aligns with desired goals.

One of the efforts to improve society can be carried out through the *Keluarga Sadar Hukum* (KADARKUM) program, which serves as a platform for gathering community members who voluntarily strive to enhance their legal awareness. The KADARKUM programme is a community empowerment initiative. Community empowerment, in this context, means that the community is not merely seen as the object of legal education, but willingly participates in legal education with the guidance of resource persons. *Keluarga Sadar Hukum* serves as a platform to gather community members who voluntarily strive to enhance their legal awareness (Laskarwati, 2018), where education serves as a transformative tool to reinforce social interactions within the community by strengthening cultural values and order (Kasmahidayat & Hasanuddin, 2022).

Keluarga Sadar Hukum (KADARKUM) is one of the efforts to disseminate information and understanding of legal norms and legislation to achieve and develop legal awareness in society. Legal awareness cannot be achieved without the support of a solid legal culture of law enforcement officials and the community. Through these efforts, legal culture can be created in the form of order, obedience, and compliance with legal norms and legislation.

The KADARKUM programme empowers communities in a village and serves as a qualitative benchmark for the results of legal education. The number of *Keluarga Sadar Hukum* registered at the Legal Education Center throughout Indonesia as of early 2005 reached 653 villages/urban communities

across 25 provinces. The legal basis for the existence of *Keluarga Sadar Hukum* is stated in the Regulation of the Head of the National Legal Development Agency of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights number PHN.03.05-73 of 2008 concerning the establishment and development of Desa/Kelurahan Sadar Hukum, West Java Governor Regulation number 83 of 2009 regarding legal education in West Java, and West Java Governor Decision number 180.41/kep.49-HukHam/2013 concerning integrated legal education teams.

The realization of the development and enhancement of legal culture is carried out through well-structured legal education, which has been implemented since 1983. Legal education has been implemented for over 20 years using two methods:

- 1. Legal education aims to achieve public knowledge of the law.
- 2. Legal education aimed at promoting community behavior in accordance with the law.

The following is the flow of the KADARKUM (*Keluarga Sadar Hukum*) program in achieving sustainable development:



Figure 1. Program Design of KADARKUM for Building Sustainable Villages Source: Processed by the Author

KADARKUM (*Keluarga Sadar Hukum* or Legal Awareness Family) Access to Justice is one of the fundamental principles of the Rule of Law. Indonesia demonstrates a strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 16, as outlined in the document "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and Presidential Regulation No. 59 of 2017 on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal Achievement, specifically addressing Access to Justice. One manifestation of access to justice is the presence of Village Paralegals trained to provide non-litigation legal assistance under the supervision of Legal Aid Organizations.

5. Conclusion

5.1. Conclusion

The KADARKUM programme has proven its effectiveness in enhancing community legal awareness. Through legal outreach activities implemented using methods such as socialization, legal awareness workshops, simulations, and legal awareness competitions, communities can acquire better knowledge and understanding of their rights and obligations as Indonesian citizens. In line with sustainable development, legal awareness plays a crucial role in encouraging active citizen participation to support rural development. With a deep understanding of the law, citizens become more aware of their rights and can actively participate in the decision-making processes that affect their villages. Moreover, high legal awareness creates a conducive environment for law enforcement, protects the rights of the community, and fosters citizen responsibility in preserving the environment and supporting social

welfare. An increase in legal awareness also positively impacts citizen compliance in reporting annual tax returns and paying taxes, demonstrating a strong connection between legal awareness and sustainable development.

5.2. Limitation

This research has limitations in terms of data collection, as the findings were based on a literature review method, which involved analyzing various sources. Therefore, the lack of primary data limits the specific details regarding the impact of the KADARKUM program. The research findings mainly relied on the general information obtained from the identified sources.

5.3. Suggestion

To better understand long-term effects and changes over time, future research should consider conducting longitudinal studies. This would involve studying the programme's impact over an extended period, allowing for a more in-depth analysis of its effectiveness.

Acknowledgment

The authors would like to express gratitude to Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia for providing the academic environment and resources necessary to pursue this study.

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