







Photovoice

The Voices of Young People for the Climate Crisis and Better Reproductive Health

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Preface

This photovoice work is a more personal and in-depth attempt to portray the views of young people on the impacts of climate crisis on reproductive health. IPAS Indonesia invited 20 young people from the Districts of Sigi and Donggala in Central Sulawesi to capture the relationship between climate crisis and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in their respective villages.

Before starting their fieldwork to take photographs, the participants were provided with basic knowledge on climate change and reproductive health, as well as basic lesson on photography and narrative techniques. In one day, the 20 participants were divided into four groups to visit four villages in Sigi and Donggala.

The participants met with local people to gain direct understanding of the impacts of climate change. They also reflected on issues such as child marriage and sanitation, which have arisen as a result of the climate crisis. The photovoice method was adopted because it is a participatory approach, meaning that participants can actively observe situations in the villages to assess how far climate change affects reproductive health issues. This method also stimulates critical thinking and creativity among participants to combine issues through photographs.

Another noteworthy aspect about this process is how participants compiled information from the personal experiences of the local people and portrayed them into photographs. It is not easy to capture those two aspects into visual works. However, through this process, the young participants have begun to see climate crisis and reproductive health issues in a more critical and reflective way.

Each photo speaks of the worries, hopes, and dreams of the people. The photos reflect the complex issues faced by the local communities. This photovoice work also brings to light issues on reproductive justice and climate justice that the grassroot communities are struggling for.

It is expected that the photos will enrich the results of the study carried out by IPAS Indonesia and Hasanuddin University during 2022-2023 in Sigi and Donggala. The research findings show that climate crisis, exacerbated by tectonic earthquakes, has led to serious social, economic, and health challenges, including adverse impacts on reproductive health.

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Curatorial Note

The climate crisis and reproductive health are two interrelated significant issues that affect human lives globally. In response this challenge, the voices of young people have become increasingly significant to be heard given their roles as agents of changes in the future and their capacity to offer fresh perspective and innovative solutions. Photovoice serves as an effective platform for discussing crucial issues. Through photography, it empowers young people to influence policy, raise awareness, and become positive agents of change in their communities. The Photovoice program was a collaborative work between IPAS Indonesia and the Central Sulawesi Struggle for Women's Equality Group (KPKP-ST) in Palu, Central Sulawesi that embraced the participation of 20 young participants from Palu and Donggala districts, enabling them to express their perspectives on the climate crisis and reproductive health through the art of photography. The outcomes of the Photovoice program can provide insights into the challenges faced by the affected communities in the area and help identify local and global solutions.

Sigi and Donggala are regions that are prone to the risks of natural disasters such as liquefaction, earthquakes, flooding, and landslides. The climate crisis has further increased these risks by intensifying the severity and frequency of disasters.

In addition, reproductive health issues have also drawn serious attention due to limited access to quality reproductive health services and low level of awareness on gender justice and sexual and reproductive health rights.

Through the photovoice program carried out during 5-8 March 2024, a total of twenty (20) young people from various backgrounds successfully captured. from their own lenses, moments from their experiences and those of the local people affected by reproductive health-related natural disasters and the climate crisis. They were given the freedom to photograph what they believed representing the fundamental issues they wished to express. Group discussion sessions were also held to review and select the photos, and to provide each participant with the opportunity to share their stories and the meanings behind the images they captured.

Some of the outcomes of the photovoice activity have enriched and strengthened the findings of the research conducted by IPAS Indonesia and Hasanuddin

University in 2022-2023 in Sigi and Donggala. After a curatorial process, 11 photographs taken by the participating young people were selected to portray how disasters such as floods and earthquakes have affected the reproductive health of the communities.

Limited access to reproductive health services and poor sanitation during disasters have impacted the sense of security and reproductive health of women and children. The photos also depict how climate change has disrupted traditional livelihoods of the local communities, such as agriculture and fisheries, which has subsequently affected the sustainability of household income, community welfare, and contributed to child marriage.

It is expected that the outcomes of the photovoice will provide a clearer picture and raise awareness about the climate crisis and reproductive health challenges faced by the affected local communities in Sigi and Donggala.

In this way, the outcomes can serve as a medium for advocacy to policymakers to improve access to quality reproductive health services, strengthen disaster preparedness, and empower young people to take an active role in climate change mitigation. These measures will help build more resilient and sustainable communities in the future.

Caron Toshiko

Curator

The stories and images in this publication contain accounts of violence, including gender and sexual based violence

Readers are encouraged to read with full awareness and to stop for a while if the content becomes uncomfortable.

If you need support, please contact a relevant support service or organization that can provide assistance.



Moh. Revansyah

Tompe Village, located in the Subdistrict of Sirenja in Donggala District of Central Sulawesi Province, is one of the villages most severely affected by the earthquake, tsunami, and tidal flooding following land subsidence in Palu, Sigi, and Donggala (PASIGALA) in 2018.

The impacts of intensifying climate crisis are now a daily reality for residents of Tompe Village. The villagers are directly affected, experiencing from extreme weather changes to recurring tidal flooding. Tidal floods not only cause physical damage to infrastructure but also create new disruptions in people's lives. One of the major issues they are facing is the widespread water inundation, which provides a perfect breeding ground for moss and mosquitos.



The impact of tidal floodings, followed by widespread sea water inundation and parched land, are among the serious challenges faced by people who rely agricultural as their main source of income in Tompe Village. In such situations, farmers face uncertainty about how they can meet their basic needs. Damaged crops or crop failure due to tidal floodings mean significant income loss for these communities.

Drooping trees and plants mourn their losses and are weaving stories of death. Contamination of clean water sources are significantly threatening the health of Tompe villagers. When drinking water is contaminated, there are risks of water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, and respiratory infection.



Drooping trees and plants mourn their losses, weaving stories of death







Shifting to bottled water may be seen as an appropriate measure in such emergencies but it should only serve as a short term-solution, as ensuring a continuous supply of bottled water can be challenging in the long run. Moreover, the use of bottled water also leads to a significant increase in plastic waste.

Having latrine in an open space during the climate-related crisis such as tidal flooding can increase the vulnerability of women and children. In emergency situations, open latrines may be the only option for the affected communities to access sanitation facilities. However, at night or when the area is deserted, these latrines can be misused by offenders to commit acts of violence against women and girls.







Irfan

She is a teenage girl living in Lende Village, an area very prone to prolonged tidal flooding in Sirenja Sub-District, Donggala District. Economic hardship and continuous flooding have led her parents to marry her off to reduce the household burden, especially after she experienced an unplanned pregnancy. However, instead of providing a solution, the marriage is now on rocky ground. When the couple married, the girl was only 15 and had to drop out of school to become a full-time stay-athome mother. Meanwhile, the husband was only 18 at the time and was still pursuing studies. The couple now live with the husband's parents, who also face their own economic hardship while still having to support the young couple and their child.



The photo depicts one of the uninhabitable houses of tidal flood-affected people in the coastline of Lende Village in Sirenja Sub-District of Donggala District.

When tidal floods hit, children cannot go to school and adults cannot go to work. It is even impossible to go to the market because access roads are cut off and transportation is disrupted.



The communities affected by tidal floods experience various health issues, including skin problems, rashes, and allergies caused by contaminated water.



In this area, water inundation poses a risk of contamination from household waste. As a result, people have suffered from a shortage of clean water for cooking, bathing, and washing.

The people affected by tidal floods experience various health

issues, including skin problems, rashes, and allergies caused by contaminated water.

The government has attempted to prohibit activities in the contaminated red zone and has distributed clean water although in limited quantities.

Some of the affected villagers have relocated to temporary shelters provided by the government as part of the emergency response.

However, not all the affected villagers have received such assistance.



The risk of sexual harassment in open public facilities such as bathrooms and washing areas is high that it should receive serious attention. In the permanent housing in Lende Village of Sirenja Sub-District of Donggala district, the scarcity of clean water has forced people to bathe and wash

in the river. Unfortunately, this has created opportunities for sexual offenders to commit their acts.

In one reported case, an offender was found to have sneaked and peeked at a victim when she was bathing. The case was resolved amicably and in accordance with existing customary laws. The offender was fined two goats.

One goat was slaughtered and shared among villagers as a form of social recovery while the other goat was handed over to the victim as a compensation.



Dinda Humaira

The Bantaya *Adat* (traditional) House, located in Bangga Village, South Dolo Sub-District, Sigi District, is the place where customary court sessions are held by members of adat institution to resolve cases.

This photo reminds me of a sexual harassment case in my village,

Langaleso in Dolo sub-district, Sigi District. It was rare for sexual harassment cases in my village to be resolved at the Baruga *Adat* House.

What usually happens is that such cases are settled directly at the adat chief's house or in the village administration office.

There was once a case of sexual violence involving someone with mental disorder who was victim of rape and received survivor-centred support from the local health facility. The offender escaped and was never found.



This reminds me again of my village, Langaleso in Dolo Sub-District, Sigi District. In my village, everyone has their own to water sources. However, there has been no water available for farming as it dried up after the natural disaster in 2018

The rivers have become silted with mud. As a result, many villagers have shifted from farming to working as construction labourers. Some, however, remain in the agriculture by using water suction pipes to irrigate their fields and many have switched to growing corn. This situation has forced many women to step in and help their husbands tend their fields to cope with economic hardship their families are facing.

This mosque is submerged in mud following the flash flood in Bangga village. The surrounding area has become very arid due to the scorching heat. I can relate deeply to this as someone living in Sigi district region. This situation

reminds me to the liquefaction disaster that hit the Pasigala (Palu, Sigi, and Donggala) region in 2018. Many buildings were buried in mud that rose higher than the coconut trees.

I was so stressed during that time and experienced irregular periods. It even took me seven long months before my period returned.





Gilang

When I interview *Bu* Mira (Mrs. Mira), she was drying fish. *Bu* Mira, her husband, and their children are the survivors of the natural disaster that struck PASIGALA (Palu, Sigi and Donggala) region in 2018. They lost their home and other valuable belonging.

Until now, they have not received any decent permanent housing assistance. They currently live in the red zone, in a temporary shelter that they built on their own near the coast of Tompe Village, Sirenja sub-district, Donggala District.

They chose to live because it is closer to the coast where her husband earns a living as a fisherman. They are still in the progress of receiving permanent housing assistance from the government.



They find difficulty accessing clean water. To relieve themselves, they have to go to the river about 200 meters away.



The temporary shelter where they currently live is in a very poor condition, as seawater frequently floods the area during high tides. The land on which the shelter is built belongs to someone else, who could reclaim it at any time.

The main issue facing *Bu* Mira and her family is access to clean water and public sanitary facilities, such as latrine. It is difficult for them to obtain clean water.

To relieve themselves, they have to go to the river about 200 meters away. Due to the lack of clean water, *Bu* Mira's children often suffer from skin problems.







Bu Mira's husband is a fisherman who often has to leave the family to earn a living. Their income from fishing has decreased due to decline in fish stocks caused by the recent climate crisis. Bu Mira has thought about moving to higher ground and starting a farm.

However, to do that, she would need some initial capital and to make several adjustments, which is difficult for her family.





They also do not own any vehicle, which would make it difficult for them to move if they are relocated to the permanent housing provided by the government, which is located farther away from the coast.

It is quite a dilemma for them, whether to remain in the temporary shelter, change their source of livelihood, or look for other solutions. *Bu* Mira and several other residents in the red zone have already received warnings from the local government because it is a prohibited zone.

However, they have no choice but to stay in the red zone since this is where they earn their living as fishermen.



Alifatul Jannah

Pak Burhan (Mr. Burhan), 70, has cataracts and suffers from rashes on his feet. He has been living with cataracts for almost 20 years while in the past couple of years, he has been experiencing itchiness on his skin and genitals. The itchiness on his feet gets worse during extreme heat but Pak Burhan always let it pass. He has never gone for a medical examination or sought traditional treatment. According to Pak Burhan, his health issues have worsened because he never goes to health facilities due to the distance and the cost. The only assistance he has ever received is from the Family Hope Program (PKH), amounting to IDR 900,000 every three months.



We are simply demanding our rights – the rights for protection and security.



Pak Burhan currently lives in Wisolo Village, South Dolo sub-district, Sigi District, with his 17-year-old son who has dropped out of school. His son helps him collect coconut leaves to make brooms.

Pak Burhan relies on selling brooms at IDR 2,000 each to earn income, with average sales of two to four brooms a day. As a result, they often can only afford to eat cassava and bananas.

When they cannot sell any brooms, sometimes they have to eat grated coconut with brown sugar.

For bathing, washing, and relieving himself, *Pak* Burhan uses a public toilet. For drinking water, he collects it from a water point sourced from the nearby river, which he sometimes drinks without boiling.

The water in the temporary shelter is not only muddy and unfit for consumption, but it also causes water-borne illness such as itchiness, diarrhoea, and fever.

It very likely that the river has been already contaminated by the waste from households in the higher areas.







Meydi Sogina

The local government regulation has prohibited the habitation in the red zone of Tompe Village, Sirenja Sub-District, Donggala District, after the earthquake and tidal floods. However, many people remain in the red zone because it is closer to where they earn a living as fishermen. Even though some of them have been relocated to permanent housing, others have chosen to stay in the temporary shelter.

This tap is supposed to be the source of life for everyone. But in reality, many ignore it. Many residents in the red zone continue to face water scarcity and rusty water. Several women in Tompe Village have complained of experiencing vaginal discharge.



The impacts of climate crisis that are made worse by tectonic earthquake have caused serious social, economic, and health challenges and adverse impact on reproductive health.



The villagers in Tompe Village, Sirenja Sub-District, Donggala District, who are affected by tidal floods, are facing serious challenge in accessing clean water. Every time the tide rises, seawater inundates and contaminates clean water sources the villagers depend on. At the household level, women often become the main pillars in coping with water crisis. Every time the tidal flood occurs, seawater seeps into their water sources, making the water rusty and salty. As a result, women are forced to collect water from the neighbouring village, which is called nongasu. The husband of the woman in the photo earns his living by making furniture but he also works as a farmer and fisherman.



Tidal floods occur in Tompe Village, Sirenja Sub-District, Donggala when the seawater rises, causing worrying inundation and serious health problems for the communities.

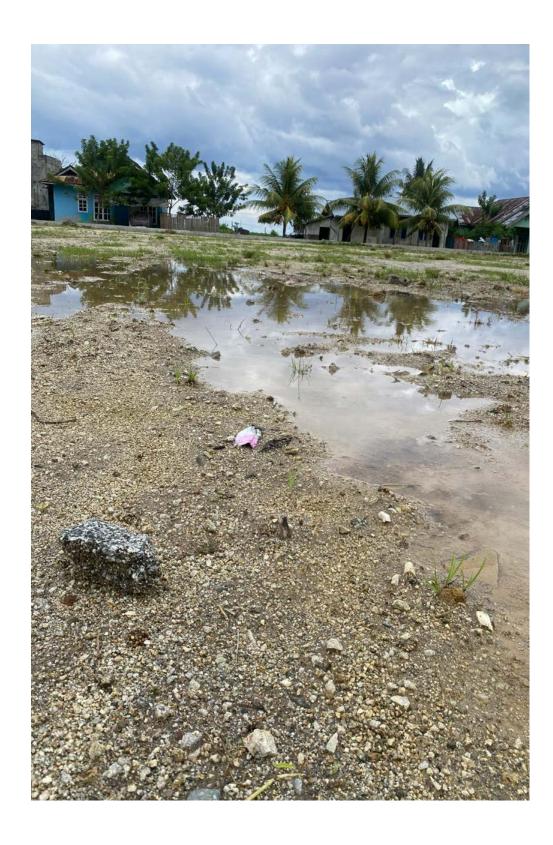
Increased standing water mosquito breeding and leads to water-borne diseases such as skin itchiness.



Ranty Meyliana Manoppo

When the tongue starts to feel numb after drinking or consuming contaminated water, nothing feels right. The villagers of Lende Village, Sirenja sub-district, Donggala District have moved from the temporary shelter along the coast to permanent housing at higher ground after facing climate-crisis related impacts: tidal floods, earthquakes, and the muddy, mushy soil that fails to absorb water and leaves very deep traces when people walk by.

The tap water supplied by local government's water utility company (PDAM) has begun to taste salty, very likely contaminated by seawater due to tidal floods and earthquakes. Even in the temporary shelter, the affected villagers still faced face flooding and poor water quality. Not all taps in the temporary shelters have running water. I tried opening around 10 taps and only 5 had running water. One tap was even left open deliberately, but no water flowed out. In addition, the water from these taps smells a bit unpleasant and tastes rusty.



The body starts to send warning signs. Many of the relocated villagers in the permanent housings have developed skin rashes with itchiness all over the body that affect children, girls, and the elderly alike. The condition usually starts with fluid-filled blisters all over the skin that resemble chickenpox symptom, followed by peeling skin that makes people feel self-conscious about mingling with others. They had never experienced such health problem before; the symptoms only developed after they moved to permanent housings. It is not certain what the causes are, whether due to poor water quality or any other factors, as many residents tend to rely to traditional remedies and have little trust in medical doctors or health workers.



Talking about the water crisis always reminds me of my hometown in Tolitoli. In 2017, Tolitoli was almost completely submerged by a flash flood, with water reaching around 4 meters high. I witnessed how my neighbours' roofs were swept away and how some people lost their lives.

The impacts were very widespread. Many people were affected. Two weeks after the flood, we suffered clean water shortage. As a result, we had to bathe in the river, which had turned muddy because of the flood. Our houses were covered in mud and drought followed the water receded.

Many activities were stopped for about one month because many offices were inundated; schools were e closed, and fishermen found it difficult to catch fish. Many of my friends and neighbours lost their homes and had to evacuate, staying with relatives or in displacement camps.

Some villagers tried to find alternative jobs that could bring in quick money, even resorting to prostitution. I knew some friends of my age dropped out of schools to be involved in prostitution.

It was heartbreaking to witness that – they were my age but forced to become commercial sexual workers. They even had to leave school to help support their families.





A flicker of light is enough to guide our staggering steps in facing our ordeals.



The light shone on the wooden boards of what used to be the temporary shelter building. A flicker of light can become a source of hope for me and the other affected villagers who once lived there.

At first, we felt hopeless because we had no place to live that is safe from earthquake and tidal floods caused by the climate crisis. The big earthquake that hit PASIGALA (Palu, Sigi and Donggala) region in 2018 was followed by subsequent

tremors and recurring tidal floods, which damaged the foundations of our homes and the belongings inside.

We did not know where to go because we could not afford to live elsewhere and the climate crisis had made it difficult for the affected villagers to earn a living.

Even so, that flicker of light gave us the hope to carry on. The temporary shelters where we sought refuge were in poor condition and had no dividers for privacy. Some of the shelters were even shared by more than one household.

Still, we were so grateful to have a roof over our heads that could at least protect us from the tidal floods. Although it was only a faint light, it was enough to guide our staggering steps through the difficult times.

The lack of privacy in the shelter had forced children to witness what adults were doing before their eyes. This made them curious and want to try the same thing, which led to unexpected pregnancies among some of the girls.

This reminds me a lot of the time when I took refuge in a displacement camp for about a week. In the displacement camp, there were no private rooms that I sometimes had to witness adults making out in the camp.

I stayed in a displacement camp during 2013-2014 due to tidal floods followed by an earthquake in our area. There were rumours that that tsunami would follow the earthquake that all villagers ran towards the mountain, where a site had already been prepared for displacement.



Photo and narrative

Aditya

This house reminds me so much of a victim of sexual violence in my village, who received no support from her community.

At that time, it was raining heavily for several days, making it difficult to deliver clean water to the villagers' homes. This forced villagers to go to the river to collect water. Tragically, one of them was raped while doing so.

The girl only realized she was pregnant when she was six months along. She had to endure the ordeal on her own because the villagers insisted that she was married off to conceal the disgrace of her pregnancy. Although she tried hard to seek justice, no one truly cared about her. She became the target of constant reproach and insults, not only from the villagers but also from her own family and relatives. This eventually had led to a severe mental distress.



Child marriage is often prevalent due to various factors, including pressure from parents, economic hardship, or unwanted pregnancy.

One of my friends is exactly an example of such marriage. She was forced to marry to help support her family financially. Her had parents lost their sources of income as farm

workers after repeated crop failures caused by unpredictable weather.

Her parents then reluctantly decided to marry her off. My friend never imagined that this would happen in her life. She had dreamed of becoming a dentist, but she has to bury her dream deep in her heart.

She now works as a restaurant attendant, replacing her childhood dream with a responsibility she never wished for.



A decline in household income can often trigger cases of domestic violence and increase the incidence of child marriage



One of the villagers of Guntarano, Donggala district lost his life after his home was isolated when an earthquake struck on 28 September 2018. The road served as a vital lifeline for villagers to access their daily needs. During the disaster, all access roads were cut off, making it difficult for them to obtain essential medical treatment.

One of the affected villagers, Dini, had to come to terms with the loss of her mother. Her mother, who suffered from a chronic health condition and needed to be on oxygen, passed away three days after the earthquake because Dini was unable to obtain the urgently needed oxygen supply.



The V-shape leaves arrangement remind me of a particular from my past. I was in 5th grade at the time. My friends and I were bathing in the open river because there was no running water available in our neighbourhood due to bad weather. When we were bathing, one of my friends was ridiculed because

the skin around her genital area was peeled and looked different in colour. She burst into tears and refused to leave her house for some time after the incident.

Later, we learned that she had previously suffered an injury when another friend poured vinegar on her skirt, which seeped into her genitals. The liquid had caused a very painful burning sensation. The other friend later admitted that it was meant as a prank.

The experience had made my friend feeling ashamed and fearful of being rejected by the society. My friends and I tried our best always to comfort her and convince her that it was not true.

The V-shape leaves arrangement and the violet flowers remind me that there is always a silver lining beyond the hardships in life.

Everyone has the right to dream and everyone is valuable.



I call it "The Portal of Life", a place where a bright future and a ray of hope await us. I am one of the survivors of the natural disaster that struck PASIGALA (Palu, Sigi and Donggala) region on 28 September 2018. An earthquake, followed by liquefaction, and tsunami struck on that day. Many of the survivors felt hopeless, as if it was the end of the world. That day was even thought to be the doomsday.

The same was true for Asqa, a little boy who lost his right to breastfeeding. When he was just four months old, his mother was buried under the rubbles with severe injuries that left her breasts turned blue from severe bruises. Formula milk was too expensive that Asqa was only given sugar water to quench his thirst.

During the days they believed as the "doomsday", everyone in the family could only leave everything in God's hands. As a result, the displacement camp became so gloomy and children were feeling down when they heard adults say "there is no life left for us".

However, I believe that a decent life and a bright future still lie ahead of us.

Now, Asqa is one of the children who suffer from stunting and need adequate nutrition to improve his health. In addition, Asqa also experiences bloody stools. He was referred to a better-equipped health facility in Makassar city due to insufficient capacity of the health facility in Palu to provide the necessary treatment to Asqa.



This photo reminds me of one of my high school friends who was the target of bullying because he had small blisters from fungal and bacterial infection.

The water supplied by the local water company (PDAM) in his neighbourhood was so turbid that it very likely caused the skin problems that my friend suffered from. He eventually had to drop out of school because of the constant bullying, and until now he remains unemployed.



A friend confided in me that her own family turn their back on her. She is a survivor of the disaster in PASIGALA (Palu, Sigi, and Donggala) region and a victim of sexual violence in her neighbourhood. She even experienced violence during her refuge in the displacement camp. She was asleep in the temporary shelter one night and she felt someone else living in the camp groping her.

She tried to report the violence to the head of the neighbourhood unit but they dismissed it and took no further action. She was also victim of violence committed by her boyfriend. One day, she tried to tell her family that she was only attracted to people of the same sex. Her family was shocked to hear her confession and could not accept it. Her brother became so enraged that he nearly tried to stab her with a knife.

My friend now lives on her own after her family disowned her. This photo portrays her solitude. She is not accepted in her own home, yet there is always another home where she is welcomed for who she is.



Four years ago, one of my neighbours had a traumatizing experience while using the communal bathroom. Someone peeked at her. Apparently, someone had made a hole in the communal bathroom wall. My neighbour caught the offender in the act from the flash he used while peeking. She reported the incident to the local adat (customary) council, and the case was followed up accordingly. The offender was fined under adat law and required to slaughter a goat and pay IDR 5 million fine. However, my neighbour received nothing. Things did not turn out the way she had hoped even though she had tried to seek justice.

"I am really disappointed. There is no clear sanction for what I went through," she said.



In the temporary shelters, protection and security are lacking. Many residents, including myself, feel that we have not been able to enjoy the rights that should rightfully be ours. We want to pursue our dreams and achieve our goals in life. But in reality, life in the temporary shelters is far from what we have hoped for. Looking in the mirror only reminds us of the painful reality facing us. Holding our heads high only seems to make us suffer further.

"We are simply demanding what should be ours – the rights to protection and security."



The photo of these children playing in the temporary shelter reminds me of my own experience during the displacement post disaster in PASIGALA (Palu, Sigi and Donggala) region in 2018. Symptoms of trauma were clearly visible among the children. Many would become frightened when there were lightning or loud explosions, which were usually followed by weeping, screaming, or clinging tightly to their parents. These traumatized children also refused to enter a building such as schools or houses; they preferred to stay in the tents.

At that time, I was so envious of the children in other displacement centres, who had playground and adequate facilities. Child friendly spaces were not equally available in all displacement camps, including in my camp. Children in my displacement camp would mostly sit in silence and lost in thought or play with whatever available around them without any sufficient necessary supporting facilities.

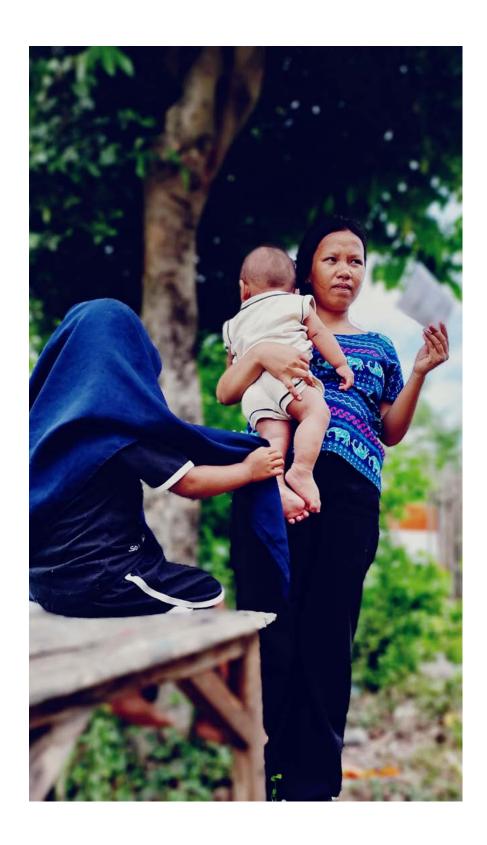


Photo and narrative

Faradiva Aulia Azmi

Siti got married at the age of 15, when she was in the 8th grade of the Junior High School. Because of this, she had to drop out of school. The marriage was against her will. Her parents arranged her marriage when she was very young for her to help ease the family's economic burden. They had sold their family land due to the ongoing climate crisis and had switched from farming to selling binte biluhata (corn soup).

Siti now has two children. Her first child suffers from stunting due to poor nutrition. On many occasions, Siti can only feed her children with instant noodles, especially when her husband does not bring home money. While aware that it is not easy being a wife at a very young age, Siti feels that she should not regret what she has gone through. However, she often feels that her life is not as fulfilling as other people's.



Photo and narrative

Trisno

Pak Firman (Mr. Firman), 50, is one of the residents in the temporary shelter in Bangga Village, South Dolo Sub-District, Sigi District. He suffers from rashes on his hands, legs, and other parts of his body.

Pak Firman previously lived in a tidal-flood affected area and worked as a farmer. However, after the disaster, he switched to working as seasonal construction labourer, earning around IDR 115,000 income per day when there is demand. In the temporary shelter, *Pak*Firman often struggles to get
clean water. He has to walk quite
a distance to fetch it, which is
very exhausting, especially during
extreme heat.



One of the vandalized walls at a temporary shelter in Bangga Village, Sigi District. Sexually explicit drawings and words are also found on other walls in the shelter.



One of the impacts of climate change is the losses that food crop farmers have to endure. The climate crisis has not only led to crop failures; in most of the time, the harvests are damaged. This condition has significantly affected the livelihoods of corn farmers in Bangga Village of Sigi District. The decline in income often becomes the trigger of cases of domestic violence and increases the risk of child marriage.



Photo and narrative

Alif Nurul Yaqin

Wisolo Village in Sigi District is divided into several sub-villages or community units, including *Dusun* (Sub-Village) III that I visited. The villagers refer to this sub-village as "the second floor" of the village by the villagers because it is located at a higher altitude. Many children in *Dusun* III have dropped out of school due to various constraints, including financial difficulties.

In my interview with one of the subvillagers of *Dusun* III, *Bu* Apriani, she shared how her life has been affected by climate change. Her husband, who used to work as a cacao farmer and coconut harvester, now makes brooms from coconut leaves to earn a living after crop failures caused by extreme heat. In addition to affecting their household income, climate change has also led to health issues to Bu Apriani's family. Her second child was diagnosed with stunting due to limited availability of clean water and nutritious food. After receiving assistance from the government through the supplementary feeding program (PMT) in the integrated health post, her child's condition has improved.



However, access to clean water remains still an issue to *Bu*Apriani. The water available in her house is turbid and contaminated and therefore is not fit for consumption. I was shocked when I saw the container she uses for storing water in her house; it was very dirty and muddy. *Bu* Apriani's family also does not have their own toilet and bathroom so they have to go to a nearby communal facility for bathing, washing, and relieving themselves.

Other issues faced by *Bu* Apriani and her family include limited access to health facilities due to the long distance and financial constraint. Sometimes, a community health worker or midwife from the Integrated Health Post visits her at home to provide basic health services.



After the 2018 earthquake, the villagers of Bangga were hit by a flash flood. As a result, most villagers lost their homes and were later relocated to a temporary shelter. While in the shelter, the villagers gradually lost access to clean water, a communal kitchen, and safe and comfortable bathing and toilet facilities. Some of them have even taken the initiative to find their own water sources.

In truth, the temporary shelter is no longer suitable for habitation. But the villagers have no choice but to remain in the shelter even though it is not really safe, especially for women, children and other vulnerable groups. For example, one child once experienced sexual harassment, which left her deeply traumatised. In fact, any similar incidents have been reported in other temporary shelters, the most frequent being cases of men peeking at women while they bathe in communal facilities.



One of the main sources of income for the local community in Sigi district comes from processing coconut shells into charcoals. The charcoals are produced through burning, as shown in the photo that I took in Bobo Village where I live.

Although this activity contributes significantly to the local economy, the charcoal business has also caused serious health problems.

Burning coconut shells to make charcoals produces smoke that pollutes the air. Exposure to this smoke from coconut charcoal production can cause discomfort and respiratory infection. Furthermore, the process also emits carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which contribute to global climate change and warming.

Charcoal burning is usually carried out close to residential areas, which can disrupt the community's daily activities. If nothing is done about this, it will severely affect the community, especially vulnerable groups such as infants, children under five, and the elderly, who are more susceptible to air pollution.







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