PLACE MAKING WORKSHOP BATUPASI SUB DISTRICT PALOPO CITY

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Abstract. The Batupasi people are the inheritors of the historical fragments of the Lalebbata area. Lalebbata is an important space in the history of Palopo City, where the economic, socio-cultural and religiosity of the Palopo people begins. This activity was carried out to try to explore the collective memory, the root of the problem and the hopes of the Batupasi residents for their increasingly 'aging' living space. The effort was outlined in a Place Making Workshop activity where Batupasi residents were invited to jointly express their dreams, hopes and imaginations in the process of being creative in shaping and rediscovering their neighborhood. This activity consists of 2 items, namely old photo exhibition, mapping and participatory planning. This process allows citizens to be able to take an impression of the past which has become their cultural values and social identity through a process of continuously defining the space which is then projected into the future so that it can continue to be felt until for the generations to come. In addition, this activity aims to identify the problems faced by Batupasi residents related to social, cultural, economic and inhabited areas.

Keywords: Placemaking, Participatory Planning, Mapping, Batupasi

INTRODUCTION

Batupasi is one of the oldest place in Palopo City. Residents who live in it are first hand story tellers. They are heirs to the historical fragments of the Lalebbata Region. Lalebbata is an important space in the history of Palopo City. This is where the economic, socio-cultural and religiosity of the Palopo people begins. The interwoven three levels are symbolized by markets, palaces and mosques. The significance of space in Batupasi now only lives at the socio-cultural and religious level. The economic pulse is getting weaker and weaker. Batupasi has decreased the vitality of the region. The policy of moving the new economic center to the Central Market (now, the Palopo Commerce Center), brings with it the hope of Batupasi residents for a better economic life.

At the same time, the government's desire to restore the vitality of the area with the construction of the Culinary Center and *Payung Ri Luwu* Tower does not necessarily involve the participation of Batupasi residents in designing the space which has been their communal front yard for generations.

The phenomenon of the degradation of the area's vitality and the lack of citizen participation in planning & designing this area in principle raises several issues: (1) Confusion on the philosophical meaning of Lalebbata as a space of compromise between the elite and the people, manifested in the unity of the *marowa* triangle (palace-mosque-market); (2) The threat to the existence of cultural heritage buildings concentrated in the area and the acceleration of the loss of sense of place (Batupasi) as an old city; (3) The process of deep consolidation of information and knowledge does not take place in an atmosphere of clarity of public alignments and seems to be colored by biases and conflicts of interests which are detrimental to the interests of the public and may be the local governments.

This activity was carried out to try to explore the collective memory, the root of the problem and the hopes of the Batupasi Kelurahan residents for their increasingly 'aging' living space. The effort was outlined in a Place Making Workshop activity where Batupasi residents were invited to jointly express their dreams, hopes and imaginations in the process of being creative in shaping and rediscovering their neighborhood. This process allows citizens to be able to take an impression of the past that has become their cultural values and social identity through a process of continuously defining the space which is then projected into the future so that it can continue to be felt until the next generations. Through the place making approach, it is hoped that the development of this area will not lose its spirit, namely the vulnerability of the space that most residents believe is a 'source of life' that is not owned by other places in Palopo City. At the same time, in line with the fragility of the space, residents who live in it must also continue to be accommodated to their needs through the development of physical aspects that are expected to be able to revive the area.

METHODS

The method used in this activity is participatory approach by involving the entire community in the process of mapping and problem solving (Fisu and Marzaman, 2018). In this activity we believe that the people's understanding of the problem and their potential is very important, so that the community should be given confidence in solving problems and utilizing the existing potential starting from problem identification; assess and formulate the problem, whether physical, social, economic, cultural or environmental health, to the development of vision and aspirations, and then prioritize, intervene, plan, manage, monitor, and even in terms of choosing the technology they consider most appropriate to be applied.

Participatory planning starts from the belief that the success of development programs is determined by the commitment of all stakeholders and this commitment is obtained to what extent they are involved in the program planning process (Sari, 2016). Active participation from citizens will determine the success of this process. The story told from every citizen becomes an important element and ties aspects of Batupasi which historically have witnessed Palopo and Luwu Raya as a whole as the place where the central government was running, as well as central for socio-economical and cultural activities within the city. The importance of participatory methods in a sustained manner in order for the people to be able to share information to improve their ability to improve their lives (Asnuddin, 2010). In addition,

participatory development provides space for people to aspire, dialogue, and consult with the government in planning and implementing development programs. This is a form of communication in development (Sulaiman, Sugito and Sabiq, 2016).

DISCUSSION

The place making activities summarized in this report are composed of a series of three sets of activities:

- Palopo's old photo exhibition, which aims to light the collective memory of citizens of the planning location;
- Participatory mapping, which aims to identify people's problems and expectations towards the concept of spatial planning/design;

Old Photo Exhibition

Palopo Old Photo Exhibition is an effort to ignite the collective memory of Batupasi residents of the living space they inhabit. Photo is an effective visualization medium to play back recorded experiences of citizens in the city. Around 75 photos from the 1930s to the 1990s were shown at this exhibition. In general, the categorization of photos on display included photographs of buildings, Luwu Palace's families, families of muslim leaders, and families of Chinese descendant citizens.

The output of this exhibition is the residents began to tell stories about the old Batupasi area. The result is the collective memory of citizens started to rebuild, makes the process of enrichment of regional planning materials getting better. The enthusiasm of the residents was not only apparent from the families who inhabited the Batupasi area, but also by residents who had passed to look at a collection of old photographs collected from several families. Most collections come from the family of Djie Wang Gip (Onggip), a citizen of Chinese descent who, during the 60s and 90s, worked as a photographer.

Apart from Onggip, a number of collections were also obtained from the KH M. Ramli Family, Luwu *khadi* (religious judge) who was also an imam at Palopo Old Jami Mosque. Several other photos were collected from court families, internet searches, and the rest are collections of families in and around Batupasi Sub-District.

The response of residents and visitors to the Palopo Lawas Photo Exhibition was very good, with the emergence of dialogue and discussions of the main topic, namely:

- Residents living in Batupasi are indeed diverse, where descendants of Chinese, Dutch, Luwu noblemen, native Palopo, and Arab migrants live together in harmony;
- Batupasi is an old city. It needs to be planned and preserved so that the atmosphere reflects the old city that is sustainable and well-maintained;
- Old photos reminiscent of the family and romanticism of the old market and the *kandang oto* (bus parking area) as a center of business and an important node of movement of goods and people in Batupasi;
- This old photo exhibition become a cross-generation educational platform for the history of Palopo city;

- Citizen enthusiasm becomes a social capital in participatory model planning.

Figure 1: Old Photo Exhibition Documentation

2. Participatory Mapping and Planning

This activity is divided into two main sessions: the first session is participatory mapping activity, and the second is participatory re-blocking and design.

Problem Mapping conducted in a participatory manner with residents. This activity aims to identify the problems faced by Batupasi residents related to social, cultural, economic and inhabited areas. In this session, residents were invited to discuss issues and obstacles encountered in realizing an integrated heritage area. These problems are then written down and mapped to find the root cause of the problem. In addition, also identified the impact caused by the problem. Citizens' problems found in this activity session include:

- a. Business-economic activities in the region experienced a downturn.
- b. Children play on the streets, residents interact on the roadside.
- c. There are no longer public transportation routes that cross Batupasi, which invites the economic downturn.
- d. Citizens' culinary business is not well developed.
- e. Many elderly people need relaxation facilities and community interaction space.
- f. Loss of identity and historical value of the Lalebbata Region.

The six problems above can be elaborated through the following table which shows the root causes, problems and their impact.

Table 1. Problem Identification in the Lalebbata Region of Batupasi Sub District

No.	Root Causes	Problems	Impact
1	The relocation of the center of economic activity to the Central Market / Central Business area of Palopo to Dangerakko-Amassangan Sub district.	Business-economic activities in the region experienced a downturn.	Many residents moved out and moved their businesses to Dangerakko-Amassangan as well.
2	There is no playground for children and a place to relax for the elderly.	Children play on the streets, residents interact on the roadside.	Giving bad impact for the health and safety of the lives of children and elderly citizens.
3	Changes in traffic management policies by the Palopo City Government.	There are no longer public transportation routes that cross Batupasi.	Population mobility is not served by mass / public transportation.
4	People's visit to this area is not as many as before.	Citizens' culinary businesses do not develop.	Decreased quality of life and welfare of citizens.
5	Lack of supporting facilities specifically for elderly citizens.	Many elderly people need relaxation facilities and space for citizen interaction.	Decreased quality of life of elderly citizens.
6	There is no landmark related to Luwu culture and Palopo history.	Loss of identity and historical value of the Lalebbata Region.	Lack of appreciation of history and loss of Luwu's cultural character.

The residents were also asked to indicate the location of the problem that was previously identified on the Batupasi map then to show other important elements on the map such as main roads to alleys, buildings or historic sites, including public facilities such as markets, parks, schools, transportation routes, houses of worship, locations of work, health facilities etc. In this session, residents invited to show places that they thought were fun, cool, calm and had good views. This activity uses a map as the main tool.

Discussions in the participatory mapping process can be categorized into 6 main topics, including: public open spaces, mobility and walkability, history, art and culture, sports, health and tourism, access to women, children and the elderly, business and economy. The topics above are analyzed in relation to the objectives to be achieved. From here, this report will issue a program / activity directive that can serve as a guideline for the development of the area.

Figure 2: Participatory mapping results scheme

Potential and problems in the Batupasi region are also mapped through the design of the area which still actively involves the residents. This activity begins with a brief discussion related to the expectations that citizens wish to make if allowed to design a heritage area. This can be in the form of the facilities they need, the shape and atmosphere they want, or the potential that citizens want to develop, whether physical, social, cultural or commercial. In addition, residents are also given education related to the facilities they will plan. So that the community can identify plans to lay public facilities in their neighborhood so that they are easily accessible by local residents on foot. For example, according to Fisu (2016), a 400 meter radius is a distance that is still relatively comfortable for walking.

In this session, residents were divided into two groups and each provided an existing map of the planned area. Each group then discusses with other residents and adds the supporting elements they need. The results of their design are then presented and discussed with other groups. The results of the design of these two groups were then integrated. The summary of the important elements which must be considered in the area namely: (1) Green park (2) Children's playground; (3) Culinary center (street vendors); (4) Food carts and chairs; (5) Narration about the history of Palopo City; (6) Attractive street lighting; (7) Art

and souvenir shop; (8) Palopo cultural center; (9) Representative gate; (10) Sculptures or statues of heroes / figures; (11) Fountain pond.

Meanwhile, several things that need to be planned ahead in this region include: (1) Public transport routes; (2) Educational facilities; (3) Security guarantee; (4) Opening employment opportunities for youth; (5) Arrangement of vehicle circulation; (6) Preservation of old buildings.

Figure 3: Mapping & Participatory Planning Process

CONCLUSION

Palopo Old Photo Exhibition succeeded in igniting Batupasi residents' collective memory of the living space they inhabit. Residents tell stories about the Batupasi area from different perspectives according to their respective backgrounds. Most of the residents, both native, Chinese, and Dutch descendants still remember well when Lalebbata area is still busy with lots of activities. They want Batupasi to return to life as before and the economy is back on track and managed by local residents. Enthusiasm was also shown by other residents who had crossed to look at a collection of old photos collected from several families.

Mapping the problem is done in a participatory manner together with residents. This activity successfully identified the problems faced by Batupasi residents related to social, cultural, economic and inhabited areas. Residents can also indicate the location of the problem before finally planning together. With this activity citizens can recognize the potential and problems around their neighborhood and subsequently jointly determine the right solution to solve problems and maximize the potentials that they have.

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