COMMUNITY SERVICE | REPORT

Utilization of Home Yard Land With Vegetable Cultivation to Improve Family Economy

Chrismesi Pagiu 1*, Rati Pundissing 2, Dian Intan Tangkeallo 3, Dwibin Kannapadang 4, Yohanis Lotong Ta’dung 5

1 Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja, Indonesia. Email: chrismesipagiu@gmail.com
2 Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja, Indonesia. Email: rathipundissing@gmail.com
3 Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja, Indonesia. Email: dian.tangkeallo@gmail.com
4 Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja, Indonesia. Email: dwibinkannapadangpo@gmail.com
5 Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja, Indonesia. Email: ukipyohanis@yahoo.co.id

Abstract: The service seeks to promote knowledge, skills, and awareness and encourage each household in the village of Ratte Kurra to use home yard land to better the family’s economic situation and adopt simple planting and maintenance that the community may easily implement. The implementation strategy employs extension approaches and is immediately followed by cultivating vegetable crops and a study of the extension’s results. After this activity, there was a significant change in the function of the yard; the community grasped the value of using the home yard for vegetable production and income management by selling crops to better the family’s economic situation.

Keywords: Home Yard, Vegetables, Family Economy.

1. INTRODUCTION

The availability of food is largely a result of the effects of Covid-19; the variable costs of basic goods and public worry about the products circulating in the community force every individual to reevaluate how they will continue to satisfy their household’s needs. Utilizing the home’s yard is one of the steps made to ensure food availability (Sunanti & Aviory, 2021). This land can be used to grow vegetables, and ongoing planting will ensure the availability of essentials. These planting activities can be carried out in a variety of ways based on the individual’s preferences.

Observations from the Ratte Kurra Village indicate that many people have yards in front of, to the side of, or behind their homes. However, the community of the hamlet has not maximized the yard of each home; some yards remain empty. Counseling about the use of the home yard can provide encouragement and motivation for the community regarding the significance of using the home yard, especially in the context of meeting household needs, even though there will be many benefits if every household begins to take advantage of the function of the home yard to plant various kinds of vegetable plants in various ways of planting.

The yard is an open area surrounding the house’s yard. During this epidemic, several individuals get exhausted from staying at home. Utilizing the backyard of the house is one method for combating boredom. Community empowerment activities utilizing house yards cannot be separated from the role of data wisma, specifically skill development by leveraging existing yards in their respective surroundings so that unutilized yards can serve multiple purposes (Hanif, 2021).

The most utilitarian purpose of the backyard is to grow vegetables (Solihin, 2018). Vegetable cultivation in the home yard will be successful if public awareness of the relevance of fundamental necessities increases. Consequently, the goal of this service activity is to enhance public knowledge of the need of meeting the family’s basic needs. In addition, the yard has enormous potential to be
developed and exploited to produce fresh veggies that can be sold to enhance the family’s financial situation (Suhastyo, 2018).

Concerning this situation, the team conducted community service through the Community Service Program (KKN) in Ratte Kurra Village, Kurra District, under the title "Utilizing Home Yard Land with Vegetable Cultivation to Improve Family Economy in Ratte Kurra Village."

2. Activity Implementation Method

Community service at the Ratte Kurra Sub-District Office, Kurra Sub-district, will be held from 2 March - to 4 April 2022. The participants come from the Ratte Kurra Village community. The meeting place is at the Ratte Kurra Village Office; this activity starts at 08.00 – 16.00 WITA. This service activity is divided into two stages, namely:

1. Preparation Phase, consisting of:
   1) Coordinate with the Ratte Kurra Village related to determining the time of the activity, the place of activity, and the location of the yard that will be used as a pilot.
   2) Conducting outreach activities with the community of Ratte Kurra Village about the importance of using yard land to increase family income and the willingness of families or households to participate in this activity.
   3) Collecting data on the number of households with unused yards and water sources.
   4) Prepare materials and equipment for planting media needed in yard land-use activities, such as seeds, compost, soil, parent, etc.

2. Implementation Phase, consisting of:
   1) Preparation of planting media and household yard land will be an example.
   2) Make a nursery of vegetable seeds planted in the household yard using polybags.
   3) Designating the yard as a demonstration plot.
   4) The implementation of planting vegetables in the yard by involving homemakers and providing counselling about good and correct planting procedures.
   5) Field assistants regularly carry out plant maintenance by involving family members as yard owners.
   6) Monitoring and evaluating activities for the use of yard land, as well as providing education and motivation for these activities to be carried out on an ongoing basis.

3. Findings

This program takes place from March 2 - to April 4, 2022. Before carrying out community service activities, joint preparations are held according to the steps described in the problem-solving method. The mentoring program is carried out three times a week.

![Figure 1: Socialization of Home Yard Land Utilization](image)
After holding several meetings with the Lurah and the head of the neighbourhood, it was determined that the activity was carried out for approximately 12 regular meetings. The results from the implementation of this program were:

1. In implementing activities, the community began to show interest and interest in learning how to cultivate vegetables and wanted to practice it in their respective yards immediately.
2. At the beginning of the activity, only a few people came, but after a few weeks, the community became interested and diligent in attending this activity.
3. Participants generally show a positive response and give feedback on the material presented. Besides, they can practice vegetable and fruit cultivation techniques and increase their love and care for plants.
4. The results of community service activities in the form of vegetable crops can be consumed and used as a business (business) to improve the family economy.

The Pushing Factors and Inhibiting Factors for this Service are:

The driving factor is the positive response from the kelurahan side regarding service activities that can educate the community about how to cultivate vegetables in the home yard so that it can improve the family economy and good cooperation from the kelurahan to support the provision of facilities and invite the community to take part in this activity, while The obstacle is that some people work from morning to evening, so it is not easy to attend each session of this service mentoring.

Based on the community’s observations, they have used their home yards to grow various plants such as vegetables, but they have not been maximized. Utilizing the home yard for vegetable cultivation will also increase the community’s ability to manage land properly and be one the fulfillment of community food needs. Moreover, as one of the fulfillment of the food needs of the community. The active role of the community can also be seen from their desire to try to practice it in their respective yards so that the results are not only for sources of food needs and so that they can improve the family economy.

The suggestions in this service activity are:

1. For the people of the Village of Ratte Kurra, to maintain the sustainability of the activities of using the yard of the house to meet the needs of the family, the results can increase.
2. For the government to pay more attention to what the community needs and additional information related to how to use home yard land

References


