

# ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN TASIKMALAYA CITY: CHALLENGES AND ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

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## ABSTRACT

A clean environment plays an important role in human survival, especially for health because in essence every citizen has the right to live in a healthy environment, so in this case the government and society have an obligation to provide environmental comfort for the community. However, in fact, environmental problems are still a major challenge in Indonesia. Tasikmalaya City is one of the cities facing environmental problems. The significant population growth and the lack of government focus on these problems are some of the reasons why these problems are still ongoing today. Thus, this is the main focus of the study with the aim of analyzing the role of the government and society in dealing with environmental problems in Tasikmalaya City. The research method used is a descriptive method with the data collection technique used is a literature study produced from secondary data in the form of websites, books, journals, news and other literature relevant to this research. Based on this research, the author analyzes that: 1) The Tasikmalaya City Government does not prioritize waste problems 2) There is a shift in land use in Tasikmalaya City 3) Lack of education to the community regarding the importance of the environment.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is one of the countries that has a demographic bonus and has a good impact on the government because it provides an opportunity to create a golden generation. However, of course, the process does not always go well. The challenges of this demographic bonus are very high, one of which is in terms of the environment which includes all living and non-living things that occupy the universe with natural functions without being interfered with by anything. (Nugroho, 2022) In Government Regulation Number 22 of 2021 concerning the Implementation of Environmental Protection and Management, it is explained that environmental management and protection are systematic and integrated efforts carried out to preserve environmental functions and prevent environmental pollution and/or damage which includes planning, utilization, control, maintenance, supervision, and law enforcement. From these government regulations we can see that the environment is protected so that it does not harm humans and other creatures so that it provides good benefits.

The environment plays an important role in human survival because good environmental quality affects the health, welfare and productivity of the community. In this case, it should be emphasized that every individual has an obligation to maintain environmental sustainability. In reality, environmental management in this tropical country actually experiences multidimensional problems which in essence are problems related to the environment that occur naturally without any significant impact on the environment and will improve by themselves. However, these environmental problems are no longer said to be problems that occur naturally, this occurs because of human actions with various dimensions, especially with the factors of growth mobility, reason, and also the factors of the process of time that changes human character and views. To overcome the problems of environmental damage that occur, collaboration from all parties is needed. The government as a policy maker has a responsibility to maintain the sustainability of natural resources and the environment to be passed on to future generations. (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup Kota Tasikmalaya, 2022)

Tasikmalaya City is one of the cities in West Java that has very rapid mobility. The results of the population census conducted by the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) in 2024, the total population of Tasikmalaya City was 750.73 people. This has a good impact on economic growth in Tasikmalaya City, especially now that Tasikmalaya City is one of the cities that supports many MSMEs. This is evidenced by the many culinary delights at several points in Tasikmalaya City. However, in line with this, Tasikmalaya City must have an adequate environment, so that local and non-local people do not only enjoy the culinary aspect.

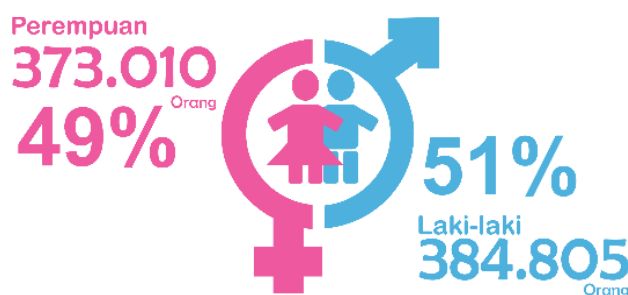


Figure 1 Population of Tasikmalaya City until December 2024 by gender

Source: [opendata.tasikmalayakota.go.id](https://opendata.tasikmalayakota.go.id)

According to the Republic of Indonesia Law Number 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning, green open space must be at least 30% of the area, consisting of 20% public green open space and 10% private green open space. In line with this, the Tasikmalaya City Government has an obligation to improve development in Tasikmalaya City, namely by expanding Green Open Space. Green open space has significant benefits for the environment, one of which is to prevent natural disasters. The many natural disasters in Tasikmalaya City prove that there is no sufficient commitment to protecting the environment. The occurrence of high mobility, apart from having a good impact, also has a negative impact, especially for the environment because with rapid mobility if it is not balanced with sufficient attention from the government, it will cause urgent environmental problems. Thus, this is the purpose of this study, namely to analyze the role of government and society in facing environmental challenges in Tasikmalaya City.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

The research method used is a qualitative approach description method which according to Bogdan and Taylor in the book entitled "Quantitative Qualitative Methods and R&D" by Sugiyono, 2023 produces descriptive data in the form of words and notes related to the meaning and behavior observed. The data collection technique used is a literature study generated from secondary data in the form of websites, books, journals, news and other literature relevant to this research.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Analysis is a process of breaking down problems into several smaller parts to find out about the certainty of a problem, event, situation of the factors that influence a problem. (LEOPOLISA, 2025) Analysis of good environmental governance is a concept that can be implemented if all stakeholders related to environmental management and protection play an active and participatory role. (Fajrian, 2021) Rapid population growth has an impact on the limited land available to meet decent living needs. While the land area does not increase, the pressure on the environment is increasing. As a result, nature's ability to support human life is not balanced with the rate of demand for population needs. In order for urban development to be sustainable, development principles that pay attention to environmental sustainability must be applied. Environmentally friendly development is a sustainable effort that maximizes the use of natural and human resources by balancing human activities according to nature's capacity to support them. (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup Kota Tasikmalaya, 2022)

According to information from Radar Tasikmalaya, the environmental conditions in Tasikmalaya City are of concern. This is evidenced by the significant increase in the volume of waste, especially after Eid, with figures reaching 400 tons per day. In addition, the management of the Ciangir TPA is still not optimal. The response from the community around the Ciangir TPA (Final Disposal Site) has an adaptation strategy, namely adapting to the situation through real actions based on experience and knowledge seen from the form of adaptation to water pollution, and practically doing nothing or it can be said that they just surrender to the conditions seen from the form of adaptation to air pollution. This shows that the general characteristics of the community around the Ciangir TPA (Final Disposal Site) have a high level of indifference due to several factors such as economic conditions that are in the lower middle class, accepting the risks or consequences, and the level of education of the community which is still low (Huda Setiawatil Riska et al., 2023) Thus, this proves that Tasikmalaya City has quite serious challenges in the environmental sector. This requires a firm role from the Tasikmalaya City government, namely in the form of action and regulations or binding rules. Based on the results of research and discussion on the role of government and society in dealing with environmental issues in Tasikmalaya City, it has not been implemented effectively. This is due to, among others:

### **1. Tasikmalaya City Government does not prioritize waste issues**

The implementation of Collaborative Governance in waste management in Tasikmalaya City is faced with a number of common challenges. One of them is the imbalance of power among the parties involved, such as local governments, the private sector, NGOs, and the community. This condition has the potential to cause dominance of one party so that input from other parties is ignored. In addition, within the framework of collaboration, the division of roles and responsibilities is often unclear, resulting in conflict and confusion regarding who should be responsible for certain actions. Community participation in the collaborative waste management process is also still relatively low. If management is carried out inappropriately, this can have a negative impact on the environment. In addition, changes in government policies or regulations related to waste management can also affect the sustainability of the collaboration plan that has been prepared. (Firmansyah et al., 2023)

Based on the performance achievement table of the main performance indicators of the Tasikmalaya City Environmental Service in 2017-2022, it can be seen that the indicator that was not achieved was the percentage of waste management. This was due to the increasing volume of municipal waste that had to be handled but was not balanced with the achievement of waste reduction from the source and the lack of waste transportation infrastructure. The waste generation of the Tasikmalaya City population in 2021 was 315.11 tons/day or 114,650.15 tons. Waste entering the TPA in 2021 was 70,413.33 tons, or 61.23% and the waste that was reduced in 2017 was 14,519.60 tons or 12.61%. The average waste generation of the Tasikmalaya City community is 3.63 L/person/day. (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup Kota Tasikmalaya, 2022)

### **2. Land use change in Tasikmalaya City** This is one of the factors that influenced the decline in IKA achievement in 2021. In addition, the high levels of several parameters and exceeding quality standards such as BOD, SOD, DO, Oil & Fat, H<sub>2</sub>S, Total Coliform, and E.Coli at several river points that were sampled indicate that water pollution has occurred in Tasikmalaya City. This is because there are still many domestic waste channels that are directly discharged into rivers without prior treatment. The increasing population and community activities and community habits in the Covid pandemic era in the use of soap/detergent for bathing and washing, the budget for socialization of water pollution control which has been refocused due to

the Covid-19 pandemic, the absence of Wastewater Management Installations in the MSME Industry, and weak supervision of Medium-scale Business Objects/Industries in the management of wastewater produced (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup Kota Tasikmalaya, 2022)

3. Lack of education to the community regarding the importance of the environment  
Limited human resources with technical backgrounds, limited budget for improving supporting facilities and infrastructure, and weak multi-party coordination have resulted in several activities not being able to be implemented optimally. (Dinas Lingkungan Hidup Kota Tasikmalaya, 2022)

#### 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In the midst of the demographic bonus period, Indonesia has a great opportunity to produce a golden generation. However, this opportunity is not free from many problems; environmental problems are one of them. Human survival and improving the quality of human resources are highly dependent on a healthy and sustainable environment. Unfortunately, environmental management in Indonesia, especially in Tasikmalaya City, still faces many challenges. This city is experiencing rapid population growth and economic mobility, including the development of the MSME and culinary industries. These main problems include:

1. The volume of waste continues to increase and is not handled effectively due to low community participation and weak collaboration between stakeholders.
2. Uncontrolled land conversion, which contributes to water pollution due to untreated domestic and industrial waste.
3. Lack of education and public awareness of the importance of protecting the environment.

Although laws such as PP No. 22 of 2021 and Law No. 26 of 2007 already exist, their implementation in the field is not optimal. The fact that the performance indicators of waste management are poor and the quality of river water is poor shows that the Tasikmalaya City government has not paid enough attention to environmental issues. Active and collaborative cooperation between the government, the community, the business world, and social organizations is needed to address this issue. The government must create strong policies, improve infrastructure for waste and wastewater management, and improve public education. Meanwhile, to build a sustainable and environmentally friendly city, the community must actively participate in protecting the environment. The author's recommendations to minimize the occurrence of future environmental problems include:

1. The Tasikmalaya City Government must actively communicate and talk with other local governments, including the Ciamis Regency Government, which is known to have a good environmental management system. The goal is to share information, experiences, and methods to maintain and improve environmental quality.
2. Green open spaces (RTH) in Tasikmalaya City must be reorganized by considering their main function as water absorption, biodiversity conservation, and healthy and comfortable public spaces for the community.
3. To improve the environment, there needs to be stronger cooperation between the government, community, and students. This collaboration can occur through environmental conservation programs, mutual cooperation activities, and an understanding of the importance of maintaining the environment sustainably.

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