

SUSTOUR

Competitive, Sustainable and Inclusive Destinations

NEWSLETTER

EDITION #13 // SEPTEMBER 2022



SUSTAINABILITY COACHING

Environmental Education in Vocational
Tourism Senior High Schools

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The SUSTOUR project is part of the Sustainable Tourism Development Program in Indonesia (STDI), which is funded by SECO (Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of the Swiss Confederation) in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy of the Republic of Indonesia. The SUSTOUR project aims to increase employment and income opportunities for local residents through the development of sustainable and inclusive tourism in the two destinations of Labuan Bajo (Flores) and Wakatobi.

...Environmental Education in Vocational Tourism Senior High Schools Through Sustainability Coaching Program.

Sustainability and environmental issues are topics that are of increasing concern to the world. One of the economic activities that comes with such increased concerns is the onslaught of tourism activities, both domestically and

Initiation of Sustainability Coaching

SUSTOUR, which focuses on sustainable tourism development, sees the importance of developing the quality of human resources, especially in Vocational Senior High Schools (SMK) focusing on the tourism sector, to minimize the environmental risks of tourism activities. Therefore, the Sustainability Coaching program was initiated by SUSTOUR, in partnership with Precious Island, in order to support Tourism SMKs to foster behaviors that are environmentally and sustainability conscious. Precious Island is a social business that acts as a support system for schools for achieving aspects of sustainability, both in terms of environmental conservation and human development. With a focus on creating a culture of environmental care in schools, it

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internationally. Massive tourism activity, without a development strategy that pays attention to the impact on the environment, will create problems for the future of the tourism sector itself. Various policies and programs have been prepared on the international and national level to support sustainable development. Awareness from the community also plays an important role in protecting the environment, and it can be encouraged early, through education in schools.

One of the national policies that supports a culture of caring for the environment

in schools is the Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation Number 52 from 2019 concerning the Environmental Care and Culture Movement in Schools (PBLHS Movement). Schools that successfully run the PBLHS Movement can then compete to win a prestigious national-level award, known as Adiwiyata. These regulations and awards can prompt schools all over the country to carry out various activities and initiatives to care for the environment, according to the needs of students, teachers, and school operations.

is hoped that new habits will be formed, not only for students but also for teachers and staff, so as to be able to produce tourism graduates who understand and practice aspects of sustainability.



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Pilot Program Implementation

SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo and SMKS Swakarsa Ruteng, both schools located in one of SUSTOUR's target destinations, Flores, welcomed the piloting of the Sustainability Coaching program with enthusiasm. Sustainability Coaching was integrated into the teaching and learning process systematically, through teaching plans and extracurriculars. Before coaching began, a preliminary assessment was carried out to establish a sustainability program that was in accordance with school conditions, ending with an MoU process being carried out between Precious Island and the school. The design of the initial assessment program focused on eco-enzyme training and coaching, stacked compost and planting on vacant land, as well

as strengthening the Culture of Caring for the Environment (Peduli Berbudaya Lingkungan Hidup) team in schools (PBLHS).

Sustainability Coaching was implemented online and offline with each school, starting in 2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic. A total of 210 students and 16 teachers at SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo, as well as 60 students and 14 teachers at SMKS Swakarsa, were actively involved in the coaching activities. Educational activities by the Precious Island team were delivered using fun methods, which maximized the active involvement of its participants so that they would easily accept and apply the learnings to the daily activities of schools. Not only providing technical education, institutional strengthening was also carried out with the formation of the PBLHS team. The commitment of the PBLHS team determines the sustainability of the program in both schools, therefore coaching is very important.



Global Youth Conference on SDGs (GYC) 2021

The end of 2021 became a story and experience in itself for the SMKS Swakarsa Ruteng collective, as they had the opportunity to take part in the Global Youth Conference on SDGs (GYC) 2021, an annual national forum organized by Precious Island. At the forum, Stelawest Laraswati, who is a teacher from SMKS Swakarsa Ruteng, shared her experiences participating in the Sustainability Coaching program. No less impressive than their teacher, Selsus Hadirama Lalo also took the role of moderator in a discussion entitled

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“Equality in the Development of the Potential of the Younger Generation.” Their vocational school, which is located in the Manggarai Regency, also accomplished an achievement at GYC 2021 by winning Third Place at the ‘Dancing for the Earth’ Festival with the ‘Coffee Cultivation’ Dance presented by Watu Mangngar Art Center. The experience of being involved in GYC 2021 has brought new optimism to the students and teachers of SMKS Swakarsa Ruteng, allowing them to run the PBLHS movement even more vigorously.

The Spirit of the PBLHS Movement Continues!

The flames of spirit that have been burning cannot be allowed to dim. After the ending of the pilot implementation, the program now continues independently in both schools, without the active role of SUSTOUR. Education has also expanded to other aspects of sustainability according to the guidelines for the application of the PBLHS Movement of the ministerial regulation. Furthermore, the program has been designed to be taken forward and carried out independently by other interested vocational tourism senior high schools throughout Indonesia, in order to produce tourism graduates who understand and practice sustainability aspects.

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Precious Island

“Residents of SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo are very grateful and thankful for the program supported by Precious Island, which facilitates awareness of the importance of a clean and healthy environment. Through this activity, the school carries out various ways to deal with waste, both organic and inorganic, in



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order to have an impact on the health and even welfare of school residents, especially future students as this program teaches how to process and sell waste that is beneficial to others. So far, various activities from producing eco-enzymes and converting inorganic waste into goods that can be sold

have begun to be carried out. There are many goals from this program, in particular how the processed waste production can be sold to the community around Labuan Bajo.” - Viktoria Timung Wulang as Principal of SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo.



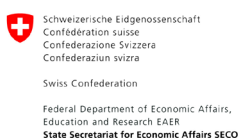


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