

## Research Article

# Innovations in Utilizing Public Open Space in Sustainable Development

Salamatul Afiyah\*, Vika Maulinda, Khaerul Umam

Departement of Public Administration, UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung, Indonesia

**ORCID**Salamatul Afiyah: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1737-217X>**Abstract.**

In this era, cities and urban spaces face social and environmental challenges that endanger their sustainability. These challenges are the result of years of development based solely on the economic dimension, where natural resources are exploited in an unsustainable way. The purpose of this study is to find out how innovations are used in the use of public open space from the perspective of sustainable development in Majalengka district. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach, with secondary data collection and literature study as well as primary data taken by means of interviews with officials or authorized staff at the relevant agencies. The sampling technique used in this study was purposive sampling. The results of the research showed that the Department of the Environment, Cleanliness, and Landscaping in Majalengka Regency has several innovative products, both in the form of public goods and public services. The economic sustainability felt by visitors is almost nonexistent, because a lot of economic sustainability is felt by the surrounding community as traders, street vendors (PKL), and parking attendants.

**Keywords:** urban spaces, Majalengka regency, innovative productsCorresponding Author:  
Salamatul Afiyah; email:  
[salamatul.afiyah@uinsgd.ac.id](mailto:salamatul.afiyah@uinsgd.ac.id)**Published** 6 March 2023Publishing services provided by  
Knowledge E

© Salamatul Afiyah et al. This article is distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use and redistribution provided that the original author and source are credited.

Selection and Peer-review under the responsibility of the IAPA 2022 Conference Committee.

## 1. Introduction

Public open space is a space that usually accommodates community activities and meetings to interact with each other in the open air (1). Public open space can be categorized as a public space because in public open space various kinds of activities often occur (2). Article 29 paragraph (2) of Law Number 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning mandates 30% of public green open spaces from the total area of the city (3). Within the scope of the 2030 United Nations Agenda, public space plays an important role, on 25 September 2015, Member States of the United Nations launched a series of sustainability agendas containing 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide the global goal of sustainable development in 2030 (United Cities and Local Governments) (4). The SDGs have 17 goals, one of which is city and community sustainability. Namely by building cities and settlements that are inclusive and sustainable, as well as

**OPEN ACCESS**

fostering innovations that can be in the form of public spaces in their implementation (5).

Majalengka Regency as one of the areas that is a national development priority through its tambourine triangle, spends 25% of the total regional expenditure budget to build open spaces with the target of creating a multiplier effect on improving the welfare of the people in the Regency. Currently, Majalengka Regency is progressing as can be seen from the various significant changes, especially in terms of infrastructure and tourism (6).

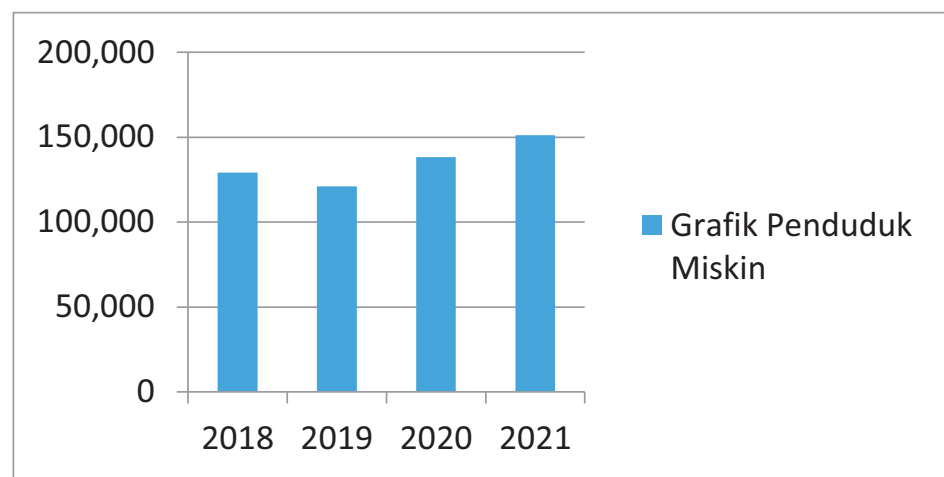


Figure 1: Graph of the Poor Population in Majalengka Regency.

However, based on data from the Central Statistics Agency above, Majalengka Regency is the area with the 4th highest percentage of poor people in West Java in 2021, and the dropout rate is in the high category (7). This can be supported by news regarding Majalengka which has been named a retirement city which has resulted in the city being quiet (8). The existence of public open space has a positive impact on society, it can even increase people's creativity, insight, and productivity (9) (10).

Currently, cities and urban spaces face social and environmental challenges that jeopardize their sustainability (10). These challenges are the result of years of development based solely on the economic dimension, where natural resources are exploited in an unsustainable way, economic progress and gains outweigh prosperity and respect for human dignity and integrity with nature (5). As for alternatives to solving environmental problems mentioned, one of them can be overcome by using open spaces/open land more usefully (3). However, increasingly limited land means that not all urban development is followed by the construction of Public Open Spaces, this has a negative impact on many communities.

Innovation in the public sector in this era is important because there are opportunities for competition between regions and between public institutions, and the possibility of threats to organizational survival. Muluk in Putri (2018) argues that innovation in the public sector has been and is being carried out by several regions to solve various service and development problems (11).

The author collects several previous studies to compare and refine this research which is seen as having aspects in common with the research conducted. There are several previous studies that were used as references and references by researchers in this study, including:

Study of Public Space as Social Capital Forming Social Cohesion in Response to the Industrial Age 4.0 (12), this study uses a qualitative approach descriptive method. The results of this study show the importance of utilizing dynamic social capital in building public awareness to carry out real (real) social processes. In the industrial era 4.0 itself, there is a shift in public space both physically, function and meaning (meaning) towards digital public space (social networks). It is hoped that dynamic use of social capital will not only be limited to discourse and discussion among academics, practitioners and the bureaucracy. With the hope that public space created from dynamic social capital is able to form dynamic social cohesion. This can be realized by controlling the physical and spatial characteristics of public spaces which are expected to be able to respond to the industrial era 4.0.

Green Open Space in Sustainable Development in the Special Capital Region of Jakarta [3]. This study used a qualitative approach using secondary data and primary data taken from interviews with authorized officials or staff. The results of this study The results of this study indicate that DKI Jakarta's green open space has not been fulfilled by 30% of the area of DKI Jakarta. Park green open spaces whose management is under the DKI Jakarta Parks and Cemeteries Service as a result of the gas station re-function, namely: The Central Jakarta area has 10 locations with an area of 13,022.00 M. The North Jakarta area has 3 locations with an area of 4,275.00 M<sup>2</sup>. The West Jakarta area has 3 locations with an area of 3.18800 M<sup>2</sup>. The South Jakarta area has 7 locations with an area of 12,277.00 M<sup>2</sup>. The East Jakarta area has 3 locations with an area of 4,123.00 M<sup>2</sup>. Region. There is no re-function in the Thousand Islands Regency area.

Patterns of Utilization of Public Open Space Activities in Karanganyar Square. This research uses descriptive qualitative through place centered (2). The results of this study show that the use of space in Karanganyar Square in several conditions is often not in accordance with the function of the space that should be good on weekdays and holidays (weekends). Thus, the function of open space in Karanganyar Square is not

optimal. The zone that has optimal performance is the grass field zone. While the other five zones, namely street vendors zone, parking zone, playground zone, preservation zone, and recreation zone, are still classified as not optimal. Therefore, the trend of spatial utilization of Karanganyar Square can be used as an evaluation and planning of public open spaces in the future.

From the several references above, it can be concluded that there are differences with research conducted by researchers, namely in the focus and locus of research. In this study, researchers focused on Public Open Space Utilization Innovation in the perspective of Sustainable Development. What are the supporting and inhibiting factors of Public Open Space Utilization Innovation in the Sustainable Development perspective, one of which is in Majalengka district.

The Head of the Majalengka Regency Parks Cleanliness Service (DLHKP) hopes that the park will be able to beautify Majalengka Regency in order to support local government programs. In 2019 the area of public open space for Majalengka Regency is 133,338.08 (Ha) (13).

The theory used in this study is the theory of sustainable development which consists of three dimensions, namely: ecological sustainability, economic sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability (5). Development sustainable is change social economy which positive attitude that does not neglect the ecological and social systems on which society depends (14). One of the factors that must be considered to achieve sustainable development is the repair of environmental damage without reducing the need for economic development and social justice (11). Therefore, the author is interested in exploring more about innovations in the use of public open space through an article entitled "Innovation In Utilizing Public Open Space In Sustainable Development".

## 2. Methods

The author in this study uses a descriptive qualitative approach where this qualitative approach is a type of research that explores and understands the meaning of a number of individuals or groups of people originating from social problems (15). to find out these social problems researchers must interview research participants by asking general and broader questions (16). With the collection of secondary data and literature studies as well as primary data taken by means of interviews with officials or staff in charge of relevant agencies and the community, namely the Majalengka Regency Environmental Service, the Culture and Tourism Office, the Public Works and Spatial Planning Office and several residents of Majalengka Regency. The sampling technique in this study was

purposive sampling, which is a sampling technique for data sources based on certain considerations.

### 3. Results and Discussion

The theory used in this research is the theory of sustainable development. Sustainable development according to Bruntland (1987) is development that is able to meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (3). Meanwhile, sustainable development according to Rogers (2008) is a concept that explores the relationship between economic development, environmental quality and social justice (14). Where sustainable development consists of three main dimensions or commonly called the Triple Bottom Line, namely:

#### a. Ecological sustainability

Where ecological sustainability is a prerequisite for the development and sustainability of life. Ecological sustainability will ensure the sustainability of the earth's ecosystem.

#### b. Economic sustainability

Economic sustainability guarantees sustainable economic progress and encourages economic efficiency. The three main elements for economic sustainability are economic efficiency, sustainable economic welfare, and increasing equity and distribution of prosperity.

#### c. Socio-cultural sustainability

Overall, social and cultural sustainability is expressed in social justice, human dignity and the improvement of the quality of life for all human beings. Socio-cultural sustainability has four targets namely; population stability that requires strong political commitment, meeting basic human needs, maintaining cultural diversity, encouraging local community participation.

### 3.1. Ecological Sustainability

The main goal of this ecological sustainability paradigm is not development, but maintaining and preserving the ecology and all wealth. That way the development of economic life is carried out while preserving the surrounding ecosystem. The benchmark for the success of this paradigm is not a material indicator, but the quality of life that is achieved by ensuring proportional ecological, socio-cultural and economic life (11).

In development with an environmental perspective, the quality of the environment is always maintained so that it is not damaged, both now and in the future. System processes in ecosystems are endeavored to continue to occur in a sustainable manner in terms of diversity, sustainability and harmony. Such principled development is often also called sustainable development. One of the important problems faced in development is between meeting development needs and efforts to maintain environmental sustainability.

Natural Resource- grounded( SDA) profitable development that doesn't pay attention to aspects of environmental sustainability which will eventually have a negative impact on the terrain itself. Because, principally Natural coffers( SDA) and the terrain have a limited carrying capacity. In other words, profitable development that doesn't pay attention to the capacity of Natural coffers( SDA) and the terrain will beget development problems in the future.



**Figure 2:** Historical Park of Majalengka Regency.

The current needs of urban communities are the existence of public space areas that can be utilized at any time. So in a city, even in its smallest area, there must be an area of public space to meet the needs of society at large. The problem that arises is when

development no longer pays attention to environmental sustainability. The solution that can be used by the Majalengka Regency Government is to add green land or city parks, one of which is the Historical Park above which was just built.



**Figure 3:** GGM Park Majalengka Regency.

Meanwhile, the construction of public open spaces is very concerned about the environment and also a sense of tolerance so that the people of Majalengka Regency can enjoy it together, as one example is by building a smoke-free area. The concept of open space that is being built at this time, there are indeed changes in patterns and concepts, which are the ideas and aspirations of the Regent of Majalengka Regency.

Public open spaces in Majalengka Regency have received renewal in terms of layout and uniquely apply the terracotta concept. The concept of a new public open space still carries a concept that is still integrated with the surrounding environment. It is characterized by applying terracotta with orange color accompanied by beautiful plants, adding to its own comfort for visitors. The cube building located in the park area is an attractive spot for visitors to be used as a background for taking pictures in this public open space.

Figure 3 is one of the public open spaces with the most prominent terracotta concept accompanied by greenery, with this public open space the Majalengka Regency government wants change, changing the Majalengka stigma from a retirement town to a developed and developing city, and with the application of the terracotta concept to every public open space the Regent wants development with character, through terracotta as a manifestation of Majalengka's history.



**Figure 4:** The Square with the Most Outstanding Terracotta Concept.

The Majalengka Regency Environment, Sanitation and Landscaping Service carries out maintenance of the Majalengka Regency public open space environment. The construction of parks or public open spaces is not carried out by modifying the surrounding environment at all. One of them is environmental sustainability in the development of the Majalengka Regency Historical Park which has a positive impact.

There are several thematic parks in Majalengka Regency, namely the main square, Raharja Park, historical park, aerospace park, and youth arena park. Majalengka Regency through the Public Works Service in recent years has intensively carried out development in line with the Harmony The Service City program, the KOTAKU Program (City without Slums), as well as the commitment of the Majalengka Regency Government in launching the 2020 Waste Free Indonesia program. It is the responsibility of all citizens to maintain environmental Hygiene.

Based on the results of the author's analysis, it can be concluded that the ecological sustainability of the development of public open spaces in Majalengka Regency is the formation of smoke-free areas, so that they can become a comfortable environment for the community at large. Apart from that, the space becomes more beautiful, cool and shady with trees that existed even before the implementation of the open space construction. After construction, several facilities were added, for example plants, grass and fountains, ponds.

The Majalengka Regency Government has implemented strict rules prohibiting damage to the environment around open spaces, and the Majalengka Regency Environmental, Cleaning and Landscaping Service is even planning to make a policy on waste



management for the surrounding community. The Majalengka Regency Government through the Majalengka Regency Environmental Service carries out the construction of open spaces with an environmental perspective and maintains the existing ecosystem, so there is no modification of the ecosystem.

### 3.2. Economic Sustainability

Profitable development is a process of adding total income and per capita income by taking into account population growth and accompanied by fundamental changes in a country's profitable structure and income distribution for the population of a country. profitable development can not be separated from profitable growth; profitable development encourages profitable growth, and again, profitable growth facilitates the process of profitable development. The actuality of profitable growth is an suggestion of the success of profitable development. likewise, profitable development is defined as a process that causes the per capita income of the population to increase in the long term (11) (14).

Profitable sustainability from a development perspective has two main aspects, both of which are nearly related to the objects of other aspects of sustainability. profitable sustainability guarantees sustainable profitable progress and promotes profitable effectiveness. The three main rudiments for profitable sustainability are profitable effectiveness, sustainable profitable substance, and adding equity and distribution of substance.



Figure 5: Tourist Information Center.

There are several new policy innovations in developing economic conditions in the construction of public open spaces in Majalengka Regency, one of which is the Majalengka Regency square which is adjacent to the Tourist Information Center building. New innovations and policies related to traders selling in areas around public open spaces, especially around Alun-alun, where sellers are limited and may not cook in open space areas, so traders who are allowed to sell are fast food traders, except for drinks. And now the public open space area of Majalengka Regency is in the Puja Sera (Foodcourt) development stage.

And for sellers and traders who trade in public open space areas are subject to rental fees. Which, with the existence of the rental fee, the Majalengka Regency Government hopes to be able to help Majalengka Regency PAD (Regional Original Income). The positive continuation is that residents can become parking attendants in public open space areas, especially around the Alun-alun and the Young Generation Center Park. Because it can increase the income of local residents.



**Figure 6:** Prohibited Selling Signs in Majalengka District Square.

With the existence of new policies and innovations related to the economic development of public open spaces, dozens of traders had to be relocated to another place, which was only a few meters away from their original location. The demolition was carried out after previously an agreement had been reached between the regional government and the traders, but there were still some unscrupulous traders selling carelessly in public open space areas. With the increasing use of public open space, the Majalengka Regency Government hopes that the index of happiness and the economic index of the people of Majalengka Regency will increase, considering that Majalengka Regency is included in the category of the highest poor population in West Java.

However, the inhibiting factor for the use of public open space in Majalengka Regency is the limited budget provided.

Based on the results of the author's analysis, it can be concluded that the economic sustainability felt by visitors is almost non-existent, because a lot of economic sustainability is felt by the surrounding community as traders, street vendors (PKL) and parking attendants. The continuity felt by traders and street vendors (PKL) with the construction of several open spaces in Majalengka Regency launched a new policy, namely the regulation policy for street vendors (PKL) where not all traders get full opportunities to sell around open spaces due to rent costs for traders and the number of traders will be limited.

### 3.3. Socio-Cultural Sustainability

Majalengka is famous for the kingdom of Telaga Gig, where divinity, harmony between humans and nature, values of chivalry (truth and justice), exemplary leadership that prioritizes the interests of the people above personal and group interests and values of character are the values contained in the story of the kingdom of Talaga Manggung. The content of the values of goodness, truth and virtue in the story of this telaga gig is exemplary for the children of the nation's next generation.



**Figure 7:** Performing Arts Around the Majalengka Public Open Space Area.

Through the performing arts Majalengka Speaking introduces local wisdom values to children by presenting the story of a gigantic lake. The story of the kingdom of Talaga Gig is just one of the stories from historical records about the greatness and glory of civilization that had been achieved during the Nusantara Kingdom.

Open space facilities in Majalengka Regency can support visitors to come to open spaces, as felt by some visitors to Majalengka Regency public open spaces during interviews, the community is very enthusiastic every evening to come to public open spaces especially to the Historical Park area, they introduce culture or history of Majalengka Regency through the Historical Park. In addition, the public open space of Majalengka Regency is not only a place to relax, but also a place and media for learning.

In addition to the cultural values that are brought into the development of public open spaces in Majalengka Regency, the construction of public open spaces in the context of providing and utilizing public open spaces in Majalengka Regency provides social sustainability. One of them is Alun-Alun which can be used as a place for community and community gatherings. The Alun-Alun is a busy place due to the many interactions of the people who gather at the Alun-Alun.

The people of Majalengka Regency take advantage of the existence of public open spaces in Majalengka Regency. Every day, public open spaces in Majalengka Regency are always full of visitors, especially during holidays or weekends. Apart from local residents, many residents from outside the Majalengka Regency area visit public open spaces, to relax for a while to enjoy the beauty of the park and chat with family.

Based on the author's analysis, it can be concluded that the Utilization of Public Open Spaces has socio-cultural sustainability. The development of public open spaces for Majalengka Regency has the concept of culture and local wisdom of Majalengka Regency, so that the public and visitors can enjoy the atmosphere of the park with the local wisdom of Majalengka Regency. Public open spaces can also be used as a place to relax, play, gather with relatives and friends, and hold events or events for the community.

## 4. Conclusion

The Department of Environment, Sanitation and Landscaping of Majalengka Regency has several innovative products, both in the form of public goods and public services. The innovations of the Majalengka Regency Environmental, Sanitation and Landscaping Service are the construction of public spaces by building garden fences, the construction of public open spaces with cultural concepts and themes and attractive designs, the maintenance of pristine ecosystems in public open spaces, and the construction of other facilities such as: building food court and prayer room, renovated toilet repairs in accordance with the aspirations of the community, and built a smoke-free area, as well as a special smoking area for smokers.

One of the ecological sustainability of the development of public open space in Majalengka Regency is the establishment of a smoke-free area, so that it can become a comfortable environment for the wider community. The economic sustainability felt by visitors is almost non-existent, because a lot of economic sustainability is felt by the surrounding community as traders, street vendors (PKL) and parking attendants. The development of public open spaces for Majalengka Regency has its own concept of culture and local wisdom, so that the public and visitors can enjoy the atmosphere of the park with Majalengka local wisdom. The inhibiting factor in the utilization of Public Open Spaces is the limited budget.

## References

- [1] Carr S, Francis M, Rivlin L, Stone A. Public space. 1st ed. America: Press Syndicat of The University of Cambridge The Pitt Building; 1992.
- [2] Suminar L, Khadijah S, Nugroho RH. Patterns of utilization of public open space activities in Karanganyar Square. *Arsir* 2021;1. <https://doi.org/10.32502/arsir.v0i0.3644>.
- [3] Untoro R. Green open space in sustainable development in the special capital region of Jakarta. *Lex Journalica* 2017;14:36–49.
- [4] Sutopo A, Fitriana D, Rahmi U. Study of indicators of sustainable development goals (SDGs). 1st ed. Jakarta: Central Bureau of Statistics; 2014.
- [5] Vidal DG, Barros N. Public and green spaces in the context of sustainable development. *Univ Fernando Pessoa* 2017:479–487.
- [6] Aripin I. Local advantage potential of Majalengka Regency and its utilization in biology learning. *Bio Educ.* 2018;3:279489.
- [7] Adyatama A. The school dropout rate in Majalengka Regency is classified as high. *Majalengka Portal, Com* 2021. <https://portalmajalengka.mind-rakyat.com/majalengka/pr-832178913/angka-break-school-di-kabupaten-majalengka-tergolong-tinggi> (Accessed June 7, 2022).
- [8] Darmawan. Examining the origins of the nickname of Majalengka Pension City. *DetikCom* 2022. <https://www.detik.com/jabar/berita/d-6134710/menelisik-asal-usul-julukan-kota-pensiun-majalengka> (accessed June 19, 2022).
- [9] Susandi L. West Java Government's efforts to increase economic growth and people's happiness levels in the digital age. *Soc Sci Polit Sci* 2019:2–3.
- [10] Ningtyas T. Utilization of public green open space (RTH) in the City of Kediri. *J Ilm Pub Manage Soc Pol.* 2019;3:291. <https://doi.org/10.25139/jmnegara.v3i1.1898>

- [11] Princess CE. Green open space (Rth) utilization innovation in the 2018 sustainable development perspective.
- [12] Putra GA, Triwahyono D, Zahro HZ. Study of public space as social capital for forming social cohesion as a response to the industrial era 4.0. *Sustainable Infrastructure 2019 Ind Revolutionary Era 40 Civil Tech And Review Plan 2019*:125–130.
- [13] Majalengka District Environmental Service. *area\_rth\_DLH\_ling\_kab\_mjl\_according\_to\_type\_2019 (1) (1) 2019*.
- [14] Maros H, Juniar S. *Sustainable Development 2017*:1–23.
- [15] Cresswell JW. *Research design qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method approaches*. Yogyakarta: Student Library; 2016.
- [16] Raco J. *Qualitative research methods: Types, characteristics and advantages*. 1st ed. Jakarta: PT Grasindo; 2018. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/mfzuj>