

# Create With Oil Palm Slipes To Become Economic Value Products For The Village Of Kampung Baru Bilah Barat, Labuhanbatu

Nilu Ramadayanti<sup>1\*</sup>, Pristiyono<sup>2</sup>, Abdul Halim<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Faculty Of Economics And Business Labuhanbatu University Indonesia

\* Corresponding Author:

Email: [lilaaja236@gmail.com](mailto:lilaaja236@gmail.com).

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## **Abstract.**

*Labuhanbatu Regency is famous for its beautiful and abundant natural resource potential. However, this potential is not matched by the creativity of the community in managing it, on the contrary, there are several obstacles that arise because the community is still working individually in utilizing the potential of these raw materials. Efforts that can overcome these problems are to provide knowledge and information to the public about the economy and entrepreneurship through empowerment. Empowerment is a process and a goal, where empowerment is very supportive of the family economy, one of which is the empowerment of the stick craft business. This service aims to find out the benefits of palm leaf buds being a unique product and having a selling value in the market that is able to open up job opportunities for people who do not have an income. The methods used are field surveys, counseling/training, practice and mentoring, and evaluation of activities. The results achieved were the formation of a Partner Group, Counseling on methods/how to make sticks, training on making sticks, and providing assistance to partner groups.*

**Keyword:** *Palm leaf sticks, Community Empowerment, SLIPES . Plate.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The expansion of the palm oil industry is still the main investment choice for the community and nationally (Ministry of Agriculture, 2022). The same conditions for oil palm for people who work as oil palm harvesting workers as a driver of the family economy (November 2020). The profession of oil palm harvester is one of the job options to make a living for some of the people of Kampung Baru Village, Kec. West Bar, Kab. Labuhanbatu. In short, the demography of Kampung Baru Village is surrounded by plantation companies so that the oil palm plantation in question can be used as a source of livelihood by the community to meet their daily needs (Kristiyanti, 2016).

The conditions that support this community service from the problems found that the people of Kampung Baru Village, Kec. West Bar, Kab. Labuhanbatu is a community member who is quite independent looking for additional income outside as a palm oil harvester. Since Covid-19 has had a real impact on life, especially the women in this village have spent their time looking for fresh palm fronds to take sticks to be managed into valuable products (Irmawati, 2021).

In addition, this community service is a university work program and becomes a routine for carrying out the tri dharma of higher education. To emphasize the main purpose of community service, this is carried out in conjunction with the implementation of the Merdeka Campus, the Thematic Community Service Program/Developing Villages for students of the Management Study Program, Faculty of Economics and Business, Labuhanbatu University.

As a synchronization of the Merdeka Campus program through community service, the role of students as agents of change can be realized by involving themselves, joining, socializing, and interacting with the people of Kampung Baru Village, Kec. West Bar, Kab. Labuhanbatu through positive activities (Jannah & Sulianti, 2021). Looking at another situational analysis in community service, this topic raises the topic of using oil palm tree sticks by providing counseling related to economic improvement and entrepreneurship through empowerment (Sirajudin & Sudirman, 2019).

The area of oil palm plantations in Indonesia, one of which is in Kampung Baru Village, Labuhanbatu Regency, turns out to have produced a lot of oil in very large quantities. But who would have thought, not only oil palm fruit that can be processed but sticks from parts of oil palm trees can also be used as handicraft products and of course have an economic selling value so they are expected to be able to open up job opportunities (Siti Nurkhalizah, Siti Rochmani, 2021).

Indonesia has various nuances of beauty, ranging from tourist attractions, culinary delights to handicraft products that have their own characteristics. There are crafts that are processed from recycled materials, materials made from nature, or materials that are relatively cheap to expensive materials can also be used as basic materials for making crafts. One of the plants that has a million benefits and even the sticks can be used for various kinds of household furniture products, namely oil palm trees, in addition to the fruit which is used as oil for us to consume every day, it turns out that this plant also has other benefits as a craft material that comes from its stick, namely palm leaf sticks.

Coconut leaf sticks are not only used as broomsticks and skewers but can be used as unique and interesting crafts and are in demand by many consumers from both domestic and international markets (Ubaidillah & Sapitri, 2021). This woven craft is produced through perseverance, patience. as well as the creativity of craftsmen in the process. Only with palm sticks, vanish, can produce various types and forms of unique crafts, such as various forms of souvenirs, stick plates, parcels, fruit plates, rice bowls, pencil boxes, aqua glass holders, tissue boxes, lanterns/decorative lamps, etc. . And to produce these valuable crafts, skill and thoroughness are needed from experienced/professional people (Ansari et al., 2021).

This service activity aims to utilize palm sticks through the following activities:

1. Introducing/explaining to the community the potential of palm oil sticks
2. Producing woven products

3. Providing knowledge to the community about the management of palm oil sticks into valuable products so that they are expected to be able to compete to become productive entrepreneurs.
4. Realizing the role of Labuhanbatu University universities to the community through various empowerments that are synonymous with entrepreneurship, especially students as agents of change.
5. Helping the success of the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture in implementing the Thematic KKN/Developing Village Independent Campus Program. In addition, this community service activity has strategic objectives, including :
  - Increase the positive activity of residents in utilizing palm oil leaf stocks so as to be able to bring in rupiah coffers. So that it is expected to create a productive society.
  - Reduced waste of palm oil leaves that are abandoned in vain.






Therefore, this service aims to find out the management of oil palm leaf sticks used for making sticks that can increase family income as new jobs/businesses for those who have no income.

## II. METHODS

The election of Kampung Baru Village, Kec. West Bar, Kab. Labuhanbatu because this village has collaborated with the Faculty of Economics and Business, Labuhanbatu University regarding the implementation of the Independent Campus The Thematic Community Service Program/Developing Villages from October 2021 to January 2022. The materials needed to make creative with palm sticks become products of economic value for this community, among others:

a) The materials and equipment used can be seen below:

In this section, the materials and tools needed in the practice of plaiting sticks will be described.

No	Tools	Description
1.		The knife is used as a tool to remove the leaves attached to the sticks.
2.		Scissors stems as cutting sticks that have been shaved.
3.		Small pliers as a tool for fastening the fine wire connecting the sticks.
4.		Fine wire binding woven sticks.
5.		Sticks as the main raw material.

**Table 1.** *sticks weaving materials and tools Palm*

## b) Conducting a survey in the Kampung Baru environment.

This process is carried out to see the conditions around the village how many people work as oil palm farm laborers.

## c) Conduct counseling/socialization.

This activity was carried out in Hamlet 1 Kampung Baru, Labuhanbatu Regency, which was attended by 20 participants. And started by providing material about the technique / method of making stick plates and techniques from producing to marketing stick plates products.

## d) Doing Practice/Assistance to partner groups. After counseling, the practice of managing palm sticks into stick-based crafts is carried out. Guided by the community service team, the community group carried out the practice of making these stick plates.

## e) Evaluate the practice. This method is carried out to evaluate the success of the practice results of community groups in making stick plates (Suwardi et al., 2018).

### III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

From the results of further socialization, this community service carried out the practice of assembling or doing woven sticks, which started from

#### 1. Preparation Stage

At this stage, the assembly of woven sticks will be described sequentially, including

No.	Tools	Description
1.		In this section shows the results of shaved palm sticks ready to be woven with an example of making a stick plate.
2.		This stage begins by making a plate pattern from the bottom by weaving it neatly. Furthermore, it can be seen that the woven sticks have been formed, requiring neatness and accuracy.
3.		Weaving sticks resemble plates but sticks stick together.
4.		Cut the remains of the stem of the stick using a pair of scissors.
5.		The final result of woven palm plates from palm sticks.
6.		Various woven palm sticks: Flower vases, plates, tissue holders, bed brooms, serving trays, fruit holders and so on.

**Table 2.** Preparation Stage for Making Plates of Sticks

### b) Extension/Training Stage

This stage is carried out by providing counseling/training materials (in Figure) which is carried out by means of 1). Socializing the method/how to make stick plates to the Village Community of Kampung Baru 2). Developing the spirit of partner groups of women in entrepreneurship as well as competing by producing ready-to-sell and ready-to-use products. 3). Provide an explanation of how to manage production and how to maximize product marketing so as to get good results and the target market.



**Fig 1: Implementation Scheme**

### c) Practice Stage of Making Dish Sticks

This stage is carried out to ensure that the directions conveyed through previous counseling can be understood and practiced properly so as to achieve the target results. Starting with the preparation of materials and tools, then the implementation team gave examples of how to make stick plates, then practiced directly by members of the partner group (Maricar et al., 2018).

The steps for making a stick plate include;

1. Sticks that have been cleaned / shaved are grouped into 6 groups
2. Then the sticks that have been grouped together are formed into a
3. Cross each group Five ends with the base of the stick
4. Insert the rope in each group on the crossed sticks
5. Then the rope that has been inserted into the stick is tightened and pulled tightly and firmly
6. Then after the bond is strong, the sticks are woven according to a predetermined pattern.
7. After finishing weaving according to the pattern, then weave the ends of the sticks
8. Then after finishing weaving, the rest of the base of the stick/tip of the stick that is not used is trimmed at the ends to make it look neat
9. After all the weaving is finished and looks neat, the last stage is painting using vanish, then after the paint dries the stick plates are ready to be sold.



**Fig 2.** *Practice Making Plates of Sticks*



**Fig 3.** *Products from Lidi that are ready to be marketed*

#### d) Mentoring/ Evaluation

After completing the practical activity of making sticks, the service team provided assistance to the partner group of village women in Kampung Baru for the sustainability of their business. So that later they can become village pioneers in the business of making stick plates. Partner groups can market their products in their villages or market them with household furniture stores or through social media such as Facebook, Instagram, etc.

In order to meet the demand for sticks, the community must try to improve the quality of their production, starting with organizational structuring and making group bookkeeping administrations, in which the craftsmen will have high morale and can maintain income stability (Pudjianto et al., 2019).

## IV. CONCLUSION

In general, community service activities in Kampung Baru Village, Labuhanbatu Regency went smoothly according to plan. Kampung Baru Village is rich in the availability of natural resources in the form of oil palm trees. Oil palm leaf sticks that were initially only considered trash by the community have now turned into coffers that produce rupiah and of course, by using these sticks, the environment



becomes clean and prevents mosquito disease attacks. By holding this service activity on the management of oil palm sticks, especially for the partner groups of women, it can be concluded that; 1. The Women's Partner Group now has the knowledge and ability to produce stick plates, 2. Through this service program, it is expected to form a home industry as prospective entrepreneurs, the majority of whom are women so that they can increase the income of the women's partner group towards a better society. much better and happier.

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