

UI UF CU IJSS

Working Notes

Depok City Government Session – Group 3 – Setu Rawa Besar

19 Jan 2016

Three Depok City planners met with Group Three Setu Rawa Besar and representatives from Group 1 Setu Babakan and Group 2 UI Lakes to discuss planning policy in relation to the lakes. A general discussion occurred around a sketch map of Setu Babakan in relation to land use, existing informal settlements and small enterprises. Most of the informal settlers are under contract and rent their places, rather than owning land with building certificates. A question-answer session started with the Depok City government officials asking the students about their impressions after their site visit, field surveys and direct interviews. Direct questions from the students were addressed to the government officials in the following discourse.

1. *There seem to be small businesses like motorcycle repair shops and others alongside the roads. Does this kind of economic activity need to have a permit?*

All economic activity needs to have a use permit certificate. Without a certificate the government can remove the unlicensed business from the area.

2. *Why are there still buildings by the lake when there is a setback?*

The buildings were built there before the regulation. Their permit is renewed every five years.

3. *Yesterday we visited the site within 50-meters of the lake. There are also a lot of schools there. Does the government plan to move the schools?*

The school buildings are located more than 50-meters away from the lake. The sports fields are located in the green setback. The schools themselves are not affected by the 50-meter setback.

4. *Are there plans to regulate future development?*

After the government has cleared the 50-meter distance between the lake and the legal settlements, the people will have to obtain a legal certificate to build in another area. But, if they don't have a building certificate the government has the right to demolish their buildings.

5. *Is there any detailed plan for the 50-meter area from the government?*

Question from Government official: Are we focusing on the 50 meter greenbelt or on the whole government plan?

What kinds of activities are proposed by the government in the interest of the local people?

For the 50-meter greenbelt, the government is planning a green open space. Also there are plans for water treatment, waste management and recreation. The government is not only talking about the 50-meter regulation, but the whole area, as it includes many informal settlements. It doesn't have to be exactly 50 meters as there is also a correlation with the depth of the river or lake as the setback is mainly to protect the eco-system.

We are talking about what will happen when the greenbelt is established. This is still under discussion this year. If the people have a certificate for their dwelling, it is possible to have legal ownership within an apartment (*rumah susun*).

6. *If the 50-meter greenbelt is realized, who will be responsible for the area – the government or the private sector? What is the plan?*

It depends on the cost. If we rely on the government to provide the budget, it may not be enough. If we can get investors, it will be a better opportunity for the community to develop. There is such an example in Surabaya.

If the private sector collaborates with the government to cultivate the lakeside, it will be easier to cover the maintenance costs.

7. *Why did the government set a 50-meter limit on the setback?*

This is the starting point between the lakes or the rivers and development. The focus is not necessarily on the 50-meter limit. There are many reasons. One reason is the government has to protect the distance between the water source and the housing (200 meters) in order to protect the lakes from trash.

8. *Along the main road to the west of the lake, there are some small parks that are still under construction. What are they for and why is the construction seemingly halted?*

The parks are meant to be a public space for the people who live in the housing area. The project was started last year and the budget is being recalculated. Afterwards the construction will start again. This is a government project to make a public space for gathering.

9. *On our field trip yesterday, we noted that much of the sewage is being discharged directly into the river. Are there plans to have a separate sewage treatment system?*

The housing area around Setu Babakan Besar was built by the government thirty years ago, before the Depok Spatial Plan (2012). That is why the grey water is not separated. After 2012, all the houses are required to have a separate system.

10. *What are the government plans to socialize with the community and to communicate the city planning policy in the sense of working together (gotong royong)?*

For socialization, each one of the sectors is divided into districts for environmental and water resources. For future planning, the government will hold organization meetings with the people in the area.

11. *Is discussion with the local people just an idea or is it a regulation?*

It is not actually written down, but in order to revitalize the area, it is necessary to work with the community.

12. *Has the government socialization plan worked?*

From the central government's point of view, the Urban Renewal Plan (2007) has been socialized. The people were given a temporary place to live while the revitalization is going on. But the people do not like the relocation place because it is too far away. So the plan failed.

The people could suggest a change in the regulations to formalize the socialization program.

13. *What has the government done with the local people? Have they made an approach to the illegal settlers? For the future plan, will the government educate the local people about how to take care of the environment and how to handle their local waste?*

In dealing with the illegal people who live in the area, the government has asked the illegal settlers to move back to their home town. But the reality is that the illegal people have settled in that area.

In dealing with the waste and the environment, Regulation No 5/2004 states that waste should be separated between organic and non-organic. If the waste is not separated, the government will not take the waste away. If someone is caught disposing of trash illegally, there is a fine.

14. *Who should provide the waste bin?*

The local government provides the bins. Contributions from the local people and the private sector are also accepted.

15. *If there is only one land fill site, how is it possible to realize this policy?*

Each household has to separate its waste.

16. Question from the Depok City Government Officials

After you visited the site, are there any suggestions to develop the site?

Our initial thoughts are related to the 50-meter wide green belt and what will be the potential public interest for its use? The students during their field surveys have asked people, "What do you associate with the green belt and what is your interest in it?"

One critical issue is to show how to improve the water quality. The main issue is sewage treatment and also it is about rubbish. The short term solution is in recycling. What about for the future? Education and training for local people is important. Also there is a use for tourism. It is necessary to recycle trash and a possibility is to burn it in an incinerator to generate electricity.

Other issues include a public place for the community. We notice that there are not many activities around the lake until after school. What kind of facilities does the local community demand generate to develop the greenbelt? Those are some of our thoughts.

17. Looking at the existing social assets, are there community groups besides the government?

The members of the community group are changing, so the community group is no longer as active as in the past.