

Empowering Local Communities through Tourism Facility Development at Lake Nglebak, Sooko, Ponorogo

Kenlies Era Rosalina Marsudi¹, Erlinda NurMita Sari²,
Alfina Putery Dahmayanti³, Ari Goda Santoso⁴

¹⁻⁴ Universitas Islam Negeri Kiai Ageng Muhammad Besari Ponorogo

* Corresponding Author:

Email: Kenliesmarsudi@iainponorogo.ac.id

Abstract

Lake Nglebak in Ngadirojo Village, Sooko District, Ponorogo Regency has considerable potential to be developed as a community-based tourism destination. However, limited tourism facilities have constrained efforts to improve visitor comfort and support local tourism development. This community service activity aimed to assist local stakeholders and community members in developing tourism-supporting facilities at Lake Nglebak while strengthening community participation in destination management. The activity adopted the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach, which consisted of five stages: discovery, dream, design, define, and destiny. The implementation involved identifying local assets, conducting participatory discussions with community members and tourism managers, planning facility improvements, and carrying out the development of supporting facilities in the tourism area. The community service resulted in the improvement of several tourism facilities, including recreational spaces, visitor-supporting infrastructure, and environmental arrangement initiatives around the lake. In addition, the activity enhanced community awareness and involvement in tourism development and destination maintenance. The collaborative process between the community, tourism managers, and the service team contributed to strengthening local capacity in managing tourism resources. This community service demonstrates that community-based facility development can support tourism destination improvement while fostering community participation and sustainable local tourism management.

Keywords: Nglebak Lake, Local Economy, Tourism Facility Development, Sustainable Tourism.

I. INTRODUCTION

A tourism destination is an entity located within a specific geographical area that consists of tourism attractions, supporting facilities, local communities, tourism actors, and institutions that collectively create a memorable visitor experience (Pitana & Diarta, 2009). The success of a tourism destination is determined not only by its natural attractions but also by the availability of adequate facilities and the active participation of local communities in tourism management.

Lake Nglebak, located in Ngadirojo Village, Sooko District, Ponorogo Regency, is one of the emerging natural tourism destinations with considerable potential for development. Surrounded by green hills and offering a serene natural environment, the lake provides an attractive destination for visitors seeking outdoor recreation and natural scenery. The increasing number of visitors in recent years indicates growing public interest in Lake Nglebak as a local tourism destination.

Despite its potential, several challenges were identified through initial observations and discussions with local tourism managers and community members. The available tourism facilities were still limited and required improvement to enhance visitor comfort and support tourism activities. Several supporting infrastructures, such as recreational spaces, visitor facilities, environmental arrangement, and tourism-supporting amenities, were not yet optimally developed. In addition, community involvement in tourism management and destination maintenance still needed to be strengthened to ensure sustainable tourism development.

These challenges may hinder the optimization of Lake Nglebak's tourism potential and reduce opportunities for generating greater economic benefits for the surrounding community. Previous studies have highlighted that tourism development can contribute significantly to local economic growth when supported by adequate facilities, effective destination management, and community participation (Fitriana et al., 2017). Therefore, efforts to improve tourism facilities

should be accompanied by community empowerment initiatives to encourage local ownership and sustainable destination management.

According to Rosalina and Yerika (2018), tourism encompasses not only tourist attractions but also various supporting sectors such as trade, hospitality, food services, and community-based economic activities. Similarly, Primantoro (2015) emphasizes that tourism is one of the strategic sectors capable of contributing to regional economic development. Consequently, strengthening tourism destinations requires collaborative efforts involving local communities, tourism managers, and supporting institutions.

Based on these conditions, a community service program was implemented at Lake Nglebak using the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. The program focused on identifying local assets, strengthening community participation, and developing tourism-supporting facilities through collaborative planning and implementation. The objective of this community service activity was to assist local stakeholders in improving tourism facilities and enhancing community capacity in managing Lake Nglebak as a sustainable community-based tourism destination.

II. METHODS

This community service program was conducted from July 7 to August 5, 2024, in Ngadirojo Village, Sooko District, Ponorogo Regency. The program involved 18 participants consisting of 5 members of the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis), 8 members of the local youth organization (Karang Taruna), and 5 village government officials. These stakeholders were selected because they play important roles in the management and development of Lake Nglebak tourism. The community service team from IAIN Ponorogo acted as facilitators and technical assistants, while Pokdarwis, Karang Taruna, and village officials served as active

partners in identifying local needs, planning activities, implementing programs, and evaluating outcomes.

The program employed the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach, which emphasizes the identification and utilization of local assets as the foundation for community empowerment and sustainable development. Data collection techniques included direct observation, semi-structured interviews, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and documentation. Observations were conducted to assess the existing condition of tourism facilities and environmental management around Lake Nglebak. Interviews were carried out with village officials, Pokdarwis members, youth representatives, and community leaders to identify local assets, challenges, and development priorities. Documentation was used to record activities and program outputs, while FGDs facilitated collective decision-making among stakeholders. The implementation of the ABCD approach consisted of five stages:

Discovery. The discovery stage focused on identifying the assets and potentials available in Ngadirojo Village that could support tourism development. The service team conducted field observations and interviews with Pokdarwis members, village officials, and youth representatives. The findings revealed that Lake Nglebak possessed strong tourism potential due to its natural landscape, community support, traditional boat attractions, and strategic location. However, several challenges were identified, including limited tourism-supporting facilities, inadequate visitor directions, insufficient waste management facilities, and a lack of supporting infrastructure for tourist activities.

Dream. At this stage, the service team facilitated discussions to explore the aspirations and expectations of stakeholders regarding the future development of Lake Nglebak. Participants expressed a shared vision of transforming the lake into a more attractive, clean, safe, and sustainable tourism destination. They also expected tourism development to generate broader economic opportunities for local residents through tourism-related businesses and services.

Design. Based on the assets identified and aspirations collected during the previous stages, the service team and community members collaboratively designed an action plan. Priority activities included the construction of a trekking path, installation of tourism direction signs, provision of waste bins, and environmental improvements around the tourism area. The planning process emphasized community participation and the utilization of locally available resources to ensure sustainability.

Define. The define stage was carried out through a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) attended by 17 participants representing Pokdarwis, Karang Taruna, village government officials, and community representatives. During the FGD, participants discussed and agreed upon priority programs, implementation strategies, division of responsibilities, and available resources. This stage was essential for building collective commitment and ensuring that all activities reflected community needs and expectations.

Destiny. The destiny stage involved the implementation of the agreed-upon development activities. The community service team worked together with Pokdarwis members, youth groups, and village officials to improve tourism-supporting facilities at Lake Nglebak. The activities included the installation of five directional signboards, the provision of ten waste bins at strategic locations, and the construction of one trekking path to improve visitor accessibility and tourism experiences. Community members actively participated in the installation and maintenance of these facilities, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility toward the tourism destination.

Program evaluation was conducted through observation, participant feedback, and documentation of outputs. The success indicators of the program included: (1) the installation of five tourism directional signboards, (2) the availability of ten waste bins in the tourism area, (3) the construction of one trekking path, and (4) the participation of 17 stakeholders in the Focus Group Discussion process. In addition,

increased collaboration among Pokdarwis, Karang Taruna, village government officials, and local residents was observed throughout the implementation of the program. These outcomes demonstrate the effectiveness of the ABCD approach in encouraging community participation and supporting the sustainable development of Lake Nglebak tourism.

III. RESEARCH FINDINGS

This study focuses on evaluating the impact of adding supporting facilities around Lake Nglebak, Sooko, Ponorogo, which includes various elements such as hiking trails, safety warning signs, directions, trash cans, and other supporting facilities such as parking areas and food stalls. Based on the results of the evaluation conducted, the following are the main findings obtained during the study:

A. Environmental Impact of Lake Nglebak

The addition of supporting facilities, especially more organized waste disposal facilities and safety warnings, has a significant positive impact on the quality of the environment around Lake Nglebak. One of the main problems that often arises in tourist areas is scattered garbage. With the addition of trash cans placed in strategic locations, such as near the parking area and along the pedestrian path, it is hoped that visitors will be more disciplined in disposing of garbage in its place, which in turn improves the cleanliness of the area. The existence of this facility also has the potential to maintain water quality in the lake, reduce the risk of pollution, and protect the local ecosystem from further damage. In addition, the presence of clear information boards and safety markers at various vulnerable points, such as around boats and hiking trails, also helps reduce the risk of accidents. Providing more specific safety warnings regarding water depth, potential strong currents, and guidelines for boat and getek users is very important to educate visitors. This serves to increase visitor awareness of the dangers that exist, so that it can create a safer and more comfortable environment for all parties.

B. Efficiency and Availability of Facilities at Nglebak Lake

The addition of facilities such as trash cans and safety warning boards has proven to have a significant impact on improving the quality of cleanliness and safety in tourist areas. Placing trash cans at strategic points, such as near parking areas, recreation areas, and along pedestrian paths, is very effective in encouraging visitors to dispose of trash properly. With easily accessible facilities, visitors feel more comfortable and tend to maintain cleanliness in the surrounding area. In addition, adequate trash can capacity is also an important factor in accommodating the increasing amount of trash, especially when tourist visits are high. The selection of iron material for trash cans is also very appropriate because in addition to being durable, these trash cans allow trash to be burned on site, which can reduce waste accumulation and minimize negative impacts on the environment. Safety warnings and information boards installed around vulnerable points, such as in boat areas and hiking trails, provide much-needed information for visitors. Warnings regarding water depth, potential strong currents, and safety instructions for boat and getek users have proven effective in reducing the risk of accidents. This also helps create a more comfortable and safe atmosphere for visitors who come, increasing their trust and satisfaction with the management of the tourist area.

C. Visitor Satisfaction at Nglebak Lake

The addition of new facilities in the Nglebak Lake area has a significant impact on visitor satisfaction. Based on the results of the survey conducted, the majority of visitors feel more comfortable and satisfied with the presence of facilities such as trash cans and safety information boards. These facilities not only provide a sense of security to visitors but also improve the quality of their tourism experience. Visitors feel more comfortable in a clean and orderly area, and are protected from potential dangers. In addition, more organized parking

facilities and a more organized dining area are also appreciated, because they provide additional comfort during their visit.

D. Local Community Economic Aspects

The addition of supporting facilities around Lake Nglebak also has a positive impact on the local economy. Better facility management can attract more tourists, which in turn can increase economic activity in the area (Fajrin et al., 2021). Adequate facilities, such as parking areas, food stalls, and boat rentals, have the potential to increase income for the surrounding community. This opens up new economic opportunities for residents who previously depended on the agricultural sector. The community can now take advantage of the tourism sector by providing services such as transportation, accommodation, and local products that can be sold to visitors.

E. Visitor Safety and Comfort

One of the important findings of this study is the significant increase in the level of visitor safety and comfort. The addition of cleanliness facilities, such as more trash cans spread across strategic locations, helps maintain the cleanliness of the tourist area, reduces litter, and improves visitor comfort. In addition, safety information boards installed at various vulnerable points provide visitors with a clear understanding of potential hazards and how to keep themselves safe. With these facilities, visitors feel safer and more comfortable, which will make them enjoy their time at Lake Nglebak more, and increase the likelihood of them returning.

From the findings obtained, it can be concluded that the addition of facilities around Nglebak Lake such as hiking trails, trash bins, safety warnings, and other facilities has a very positive impact on environmental cleanliness, visitor comfort, and the local economy. These additional facilities not only improve the quality of the tourist experience, but also help maintain environmental sustainability and ensure visitor safety. With proper management and sustainable facility development, Nglebak Lake has the potential to become a superior tourist

destination that provides economic benefits to the surrounding community, as well as providing a safer and more enjoyable tourist experience for visitors.

IV. DISCUSSION

The following discussion will describe how added facilities, such as hiking trails, trash cans, safety warnings, parking areas, and food stalls will affect the increase in tourist attraction at Lake Nglebak.

A. The Influence of Facilities on Interest in Visiting

Complete and adequate facilities play a crucial role in attracting tourists to visit and return to a tourist destination (Donargo, 2022). Previously, Lake Nglebak did not have facilities such as trash bins and adequate safety warnings, which caused visitors to be less concerned about maintaining cleanliness and safety during their visit. This study shows that with facilities such as trash bins and safety warnings, tourists feel more comfortable and safe, which has a direct impact on increasing their satisfaction.

These facilities also play a role in creating a clean and orderly environment, which is very important for a tourist spot. According to theory, facilities are the means and infrastructure provided by tourist attractions to support tourist activities (Miarsih & Anwani, 2018). With easily accessible trash bins, visitors are no longer confused about throwing away trash, which in turn makes them feel more comfortable. This is one of the factors that increases the likelihood of visitors returning and recommending this place to others.

In addition, the appeal of Lake Nglebak itself, such as beautiful natural scenery and recreational activities that can be done, also influences the interest in visiting. The beautiful natural scenery, surrounded by mountains and trees, provides a cool and refreshing atmosphere, which is the main attraction for tourists looking for tranquility. Activities such as fishing, boating, or simply relaxing on the edge of the lake are also a separate attraction. Adequate facilities,

such as parking areas and food stalls, complement the comfort of visitors and make their experience more enjoyable. Overall, the combination of attractive natural scenery, adequate facilities, and good accessibility are the main factors that increase tourists' interest in visiting Lake Nglebak.

B. The Influence of Accessibility on Visiting Decisions

Good accessibility and adequate facilities have a major influence on tourists' decisions to visit a tourist attraction (Irawan et al., 2021). The presence of safety facilities, such as warning signs and warning signs, provides a sense of security to visitors, especially those using boats or hiking trails. These facilities help visitors feel more careful and responsible for their safety, thereby reducing the potential for accidents that can occur. In addition, with the presence of cleaning facilities such as trash cans placed in strategic locations, visitors do not need to worry about scattered garbage. This creates a cleaner and more comfortable environment, which influences visitors' decisions to return. Good facilities show the management's commitment to maintaining the quality of tourist destinations, which in turn increases visitor satisfaction.

Accessibility, in this case, includes easy access to the Nglebak Lake area. Ease of transportation and clear directions also play an important role in tourists' decisions to visit the location. Nglebak Lake, which can be reached by two-wheeled or four-wheeled vehicles, has advantages in terms of accessibility. Ease of access to tourist locations is often a primary consideration for visitors, because the easier it is for them to reach a destination, the more likely they are to return.

C. The Influence of Facilities and Attractions on Tourist Satisfaction

Tourist satisfaction is greatly influenced by the quality of the facilities provided and the tourist attractions offered. This study shows that good tourist facilities—including infrastructure, services, and complementary facilities—have a positive influence on the level of visitor satisfaction. Tourists who are satisfied with the facilities available tend to have a better experience and are

more likely to return to the destination. According to Yoeti (2018), tourist facilities are all forms of facilities that allow tourists to enjoy tourist activities comfortably. Complete and comfortable facilities, such as parking lots, food stalls, and cleaning facilities such as toilets and trash cans, provide more comfort for tourists. This satisfaction is also exacerbated by natural attractions, such as the beauty of the scenery and activities that can be done in the Nglebak Lake area.

Tourists who find attractions that they like—be it natural scenery, recreational activities, or adequate supporting facilities—tend to feel satisfied and more enthusiastic about recommending this destination to others. In this case, facilities that support visitor comfort also play a role in creating a better tourist experience, which leads to tourists' decisions to return to Nglebak Lake. For example, food stall facilities that serve local cuisine or gazebos for relaxing add to the comfort of visitors. With facilities that meet visitors' expectations, they will feel more appreciated and tend to provide positive feedback, which supports the further development of tourist destination.



Picture 1. Large Trash Box



Picture 2. Warning Board

V. CONCLUSION

The community service program at Lake Nglebak, Ngadirojo Village, Sooko District, Ponorogo Regency, was successfully implemented using the Asset-Based

Community Development (ABCD) approach involving Pokdarwis members, Karang Taruna, and village government representatives. The program resulted in several tangible outputs, including the installation of five directional signboards, the provision of ten waste bins, and the construction of one trekking path to support tourism activities and environmental management.

The program also strengthened collaboration among local stakeholders and increased community participation in tourism development initiatives. Through participatory planning and implementation, community members became more actively involved in maintaining tourism facilities and supporting the sustainable management of Lake Nglebak as a community-based tourism destination.

The sustainability of the program can be supported through continuous collaboration between Pokdarwis, village government, youth organizations, and local communities in maintaining and improving tourism facilities. Future development efforts may focus on expanding tourism-supporting infrastructure, strengthening community capacity in tourism management, and promoting Lake Nglebak more broadly to enhance its potential as a sustainable local tourism destination.

REFERENCES

- Donargo, S. (2022). Pengaruh Promosi dan Fasilitas Terhadap Keputusan Berkunjung di Kawasan Kesawan Kota Medan. *Jurnal Creative Agung*, 12(2), 149-167.
- Fajrin, Andes Rahmat, Gatot Wijayanto, and Sri Endang Kornita. (2021). "*Pengaruh Fasilitas dan Lokasi terhadap Kepuasan dan Minat Berkunjung Kembali Wisatawan Candi Muara Takus Kecamatan XIII Koto Kampar Kabupaten Kampar.*" *Jurnal Ekonomi KIAT* 32.1.
- Fitriana, V., Abidin, Z., Endaryanto, T. (2017). Estimasi Permintaan dan Nilai Ekonomi Taman Wisata Alam Angke Kapuk Jakarta Utara. *JIIA*, 5 (3).

- Irawan, Mohamad Rizal Nur, Levie Inggrit Sayekti, and Ratna Ekasari. (2021). *"Pengaruh fasilitas wisata, promosi dan harga terhadap minat wisatawan berkunjung pada wisata wego lamongan."* Jurnal Ecopreneur. 12 4.2: 122-131.
- Kamelia, M., & Pawhestri, S. W. (2021). Pemberdayaan petani karet Desa Adi Mulyo dengan pendekatan asset-based community development. JMM (Jurnal Masyarakat Mandiri), 5(6), 3288-3300.
- Miarsih, G. Surya dan Anwani. (2018). Analisis Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Minat Berkunjung Wisatawan ke Objek Wisata Religi Masjid Gedhe Kauman Yogyakarta. Journal of Tourism and Economic, 1 (2), 117-123.
- Nur, Rosalina dan Yerika, Ayu. (2018). Jurnal Stipram vol 12. “ *Pengaruh Sektor Pariwisata Terhadap Kemandirian Fiskal Daerah Kabupaten Pacitan (Paska Penetapan Kawasan Geopark Gunung Sewu)*”. STIPRAM Yogyakarta. <http://ejournal.stipram.net/index.php/pariwisata/issue/view/38>
- Pitana, I Gede dan Diarta, I Ketut Surya. (2009). Pengantar Ilmu Pariwisata. Yogyakarta: Penerbit Andi.
- Primantoro. (2015). Kualitas Kawasan Pantai Depok, Gumuk Pasir Barchan, Pantai Parangkusumo dan Pantai Parangtritis Berdasarkan Parameter Geowisata : Jurnal Kepariwisata, vol. 9, no 2.
- Yoeti, Oka. A. (2003). Tours And Travel Marketing. Jakarta: Pradnya Paramita.