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PKM "Friendship" Bracelet Creations From Fabric Patch Waste and Plastic Bottles in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

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Abstract

PKM International Creates "friendship" bracelets from waste cloth scraps and plastic bottles in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Indonesia-Malaysia friendship inspired the creation of "friendship" bracelets. Apart from that, the use of waste rags and plastic bottles can be created into various forms of interesting accessories and waste rags and plastic bottles are easy to obtain. The choice of accessories was chosen to be attractive, had sales value and was easy for partners to carry out, in this case fifth grade elementary school students in Klang Slangor, Malaysia, formed by the Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur under the supervision of the Indonesian School Kuala Lumpur (SIKL). The target partners are the children of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI) who are protected by Law Number 18 of 2017 concerning the Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Article 1 paragraph 2. The aim of this International PKM activity is to increase knowledge, skills and create an entrepreneurial spirit in fifth grade elementary school students in the creation of "friendship" bracelets from waste fabric scraps and plastic bottles. The implementation stage of this service activity consists of 4 stages, namely preparation, implementation, evaluation and follow-up plans. Based on the results of the evaluation of the implementation of the training provided, it can be concluded that there has been an increase in knowledge, entrepreneurial spirit and skills in creating "friendship" bracelets from waste rags and plastic bottles.

Keywords: Creation, friendship, bracelets, waste cloth scraps and waste plastic bottles

Introduction

SD (Primary School) in Klang Slangor Malaysia is organized by the Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur under the supervision of the Indonesian School Kuala Lumpur (SIKL). The target partners are the children of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI) who are protected by Law Number 18 of 2017 concerning the Protection of Migrant Workers Indonesia Article 1 paragraph 2. Indonesian migrant workers (PMI) chose Malaysia as their destination country by considering various things such as:

- a) The geographical location of Indonesia and Malaysia is close, so that access to transportation and communication between the two countries is easy and travel costs for Indonesian migrant workers are minimal;
- b) Malaysia, as a country that has diversified economic growth and is experiencing rapid economic growth, requires a large number of skilled workers to support various industrial sectors, such as agriculture, hospitality, manufacturing and construction.
- c) Malaysia has similarities in terms of language and culture which makes the integration of Indonesian migrant workers in Malaysia relatively easy. Apart from that, the presence of a large community of Indonesian migrant workers already in

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- Malaysia also makes the adaptation process easier for newly arrived migrant workers; And
- d) Immigration policies are relatively flexible in Malaysia with visa programs and residence permits that are easy to obtain.

Data from the Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency (BP2MI) in February 2024 shows the placement of 23,716 PMI workers. Furthermore, the presence of Indonesian migrant workers abroad makes them the country's foreign exchange heroes. In the calendar year to the third quarter of 2023, foreign exchange donations through PMI remittances have reached 7.97 billion US dollars or an increase of 11.1 percent compared to the same period in 2022 (Agustinus, 2023) and places PMI as the second largest contributor to the country's foreign exchange after oil and gas sector.

The children of Indonesian migrant workers who have been in Malaysia for a long time and are entering school age and are already in the fifth grade of elementary school still lack knowledge, entrepreneurial spirit and skills in creating "friendship" bracelets from waste rags and plastic bottles. The Indonesia-Malaysia friendship inspired the creation of "friendship" bracelets. Utilizing fabric scraps and plastic bottles can be created into a variety of interesting accessories and fabric scraps and plastic bottles are easy to obtain. The accessories were chosen to be attractive, have sales value and are easy for fifth grade elementary school students to do.

Based on the previous description, a holistic intervention is needed through community service activities. Community service is an action aimed at providing assistance to a particular community group in various activities without expecting material or non-material rewards (Emilia, 2022).

Indonesia-Malaysia are two countries that have friendly ties both in domestic and foreign affairs of each country. The community service activities carried out are to strengthen ties and connectedness with the community as an expression of concern for them (Jayanti et al., 2022).

Society, in this case the fifth grade elementary school children who will later become young people, needs to provide a platform or means to prevent or resolve the problems experienced by the younger generation. It is hoped that this facility can provide direction and guidance to young people so that they can improve their quality and become better individuals who are beneficial to society. In this case, it is important to foster and develop the abilities, skills, talents and knowledge of young people (Pratiwi et al., 2021). It can also be seen that around the school there are many food and drink sellers which of course generate waste from the food and drink packaging they sell which can be used, especially plastic bottles, to make "friendship" bracelets.

Bracelets are accessories worn on the wrist so they are easily visible due to their placement and size even when wearing Muslim clothing. This makes it easy for fifth grade elementary school students to do it because the size is not small when choosing a ring or large when choosing a necklace.

Methods

The target partners in this activity are the children of Indonesian migrant workers who have been in Malaysia for a long time and are entering school age and are in the fifth grade of elementary school. The approach method is adapted to the problem solving being undertaken, either in the form of theoretical guidance activities or practical ones. To make implementation easier, the approach methods used are:

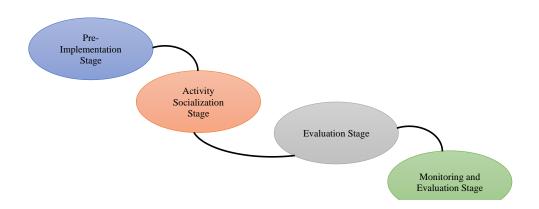
- a) Lectures, questions and answers, and discussions. This approach method is used when presenting cognitive material, such as the theory of using tools, the function of each material used to create "friendship" bracelets.
- b) Demonstration. This approach method is used when presenting psychomotor material, namely when studying the use of tools and materials that will be used.

The stages in this training activity are:

a) Pre-Implementation Stage: In this stage, an initial survey, licensing and identification of problems with partners are carried out. This is done so that the

- training activities that will be carried out can run smoothly, the target partners can provide a training place, determine the time for carrying out the activities and the training participants as well as the PKM team can prepare the tools and materials used in the training.
- b) Activity Socialization Stage In this stage, training outreach is carried out with target partners. The socialization material focused on the use of waste fabrics and plastic bottles which were created to create "friendship" bracelets. The selection of accessories is attractive, has sales value and is easy for fifth grade elementary school students to use, as well as the tools and materials used.
- c) Evaluation Stage: In this stage, the PKM team trains and assists target partners in utilizing waste rags and plastic bottles which are created into "friendship" bracelets.
- d) Monitoring and Evaluation Stage In this stage, monitoring and evaluation of target partners is carried out based on the training that has been carried out. This aims to see the development of training programs that have been implemented, the obstacles experienced by target partners, and solutions to the obstacles experienced by target partners.

Chart 1. Activity Stage



Result and Discussion

Knowledge Regarding Utilization Innovation Waste Cloth Patches and Plastic Bottles

The material provided to target partners is in the form of utilizing waste rags and plastic bottles, and business opportunities for utilizing waste rags and plastic bottles. Before starting training, target partners are given a pre-test so they can measure their level of knowledge and understanding regarding the use of waste rags and plastic bottles. It is hoped that the group that received the training can provide further education to their other friends so that elementary school students in Klang Slangor Malaysia can have knowledge about the use of waste rags and plastic bottles into "friendship" bracelets.

Utilizing waste from rags and plastic bottles as an alternative to dealing with waste from food and drink packaging sold around schools, especially plastic bottles. Making "friendship" bracelets also trains children's fine motor skills and also creates an entrepreneurial spirit because it produces products that have creative and selling value, and in the future they will be more independent and innovative.



Figure 1. Photo with the group of UNM LP2M service team and participants before entering the classroom



Figure 2. Material Presentation Process

Based on the pre-test results, it can be seen that most of the target partners tend to be less aware of the benefits of rag waste and plastic bottles. So far, the target partners only know about waste rags and plastic bottles being turned into containers, for example flower vases or stationery holders. Based on the post-test results, the target partners' knowledge and skills increased after the training activities were carried out. The pre-test and post-test results can be seen in Chart 2.

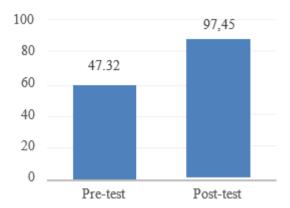


Chart 2. Target Partners' understanding of the use of waste rags and plastic bottles into "friendship" bracelets

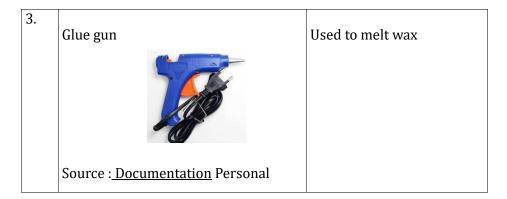
Based on the data in Chart 2, it is known that there is an increase in knowledge and skills regarding the use of waste rags and plastic bottles into "friendship" bracelets for target partners. From the results of the interviews, it was also discovered that the partners only used waste cloth rags and plastic bottles to make containers, for example flower vases or stationery holders, however, after presenting the material, the target partners already had knowledge about innovations in the use of waste rags and plastic bottles.

Furthermore, the tools and materials used during the practice of making "friendship" bracelets are as follows:

a) Tool

Table 1 Tools Used

No	Tool Name	Use
1.	Scissors	Used to cut plastic bottles
	Source : <u>Documentation</u> Personal	
2.	TRANSCO TRANSCO TRANSCO	Used to help connect chains in plastic that have been perforated
	Source : <u>Documentation</u> Personal	



b) Material

Table 2 Material Use

No	Tool Name	Use
1.	Plastic bottles Source : <u>Documentation</u> Personal	Used as the main ingredient in making traditional clothing accessories
2.	Waste cloth scraps Source : <u>Documentation</u> Personal	Used as the main ingredient in making traditional clothing accessories
3.	Wax glue Source : Documentation Personal	Used to attach plastic



Practice of Making "Friendship" Bracelets

At this stage, the PKM team explains the tools and materials that will be used along with the steps for making them. The target partners will be trained to utilize waste rags and plastic bottles to become "friendship" bracelets. It is hoped that this "friendship" bracelet product can become a souvenir at every school event or event organized by the Indonesian Embassy in Kula Lumpur Malaysia, so that it can become a business opportunity for school children's products that are different from before. The next stage, after explaining the tools and materials that will be used in this training, the PKM team demonstrated the process of making "friendship" bracelets. to all target partners. During this process, target partners are given the opportunity to ask questions to the PKM team.



Figure 3. "Friendship" Bracelet Design

After the PKM team demonstrated the process of utilizing waste rags and plastic bottles into "friendship" bracelets, the target partners were asked to make "friendship" bracelets independently accompanied by the PKM team. This aims to ensure that the target partners clearly understand the steps for making the innovation from waste rags and plastic bottles that are being trained and that the target partners can practice independently in their respective homes when the training has been completed. During this activity, the question and answer process with the target partners continues.





Figure 4. Assistance in the practice of making "friendship" bracelets

The participants looked active during the question and answer session, especially regarding the process of making "friendship" bracelets because the participants did not know that waste rags and plastic bottles became "friendship" bracelets. Many of the participants were enthusiastic because during the implementation process the activities were interspersed with games, if they could answer questions and complete the manufacturing process they would receive a memento prize from the service team.



Figure 5. Photo with participants receiving rewards from the service team



Figure 6. Group photo of participants wearing "friendship" bracelets

Evaluation of Program Benefits

After the partner's independent practice was completed, the PKM team carried out an evaluation regarding the level of usefulness of the training program implemented for the target partners in increasing their knowledge and skills in innovation in the use of waste rags and plastic bottles. Moreover, this "friendship" bracelet addresses reducing waste from food and drink packaging sold. around schools, especially plastic bottles, have become a resale value. The results of this evaluation can be seen in Chart 3. The results obtained from the evaluation stage show that the target partners consider the training provided to be very useful because they gain new knowledge and skills and it is hoped that this can be used as a business opportunity to help the household economy.

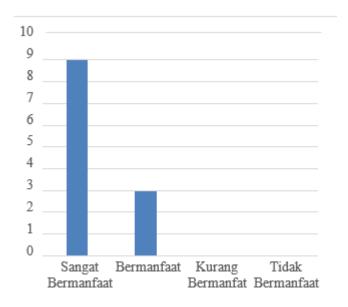


Chart 3. Evaluation of the Usefulness of the Training Program

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the results of the service that has been carried out with the target partners, in this case the children of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI) who attend fifth grade elementary school. The elementary school in Klang Slangor Malaysia was formed by the Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur under the supervision of the Indonesian School Kuala Lumpur (SIKL). It can be concluded that there is an increase in knowledge and skills obtained by partners during the training. Utilizing waste from rags and plastic bottles which are generally only used as containers, for example flower vases or stationery holders.

Utilizing waste from rags and plastic bottles as an alternative to dealing with waste from food and drink packaging sold around schools, especially plastic bottles. Making "friendship" bracelets also trains children's fine motor skills and also creates an entrepreneurial spirit because it produces products that have creative and selling value, and in the future they will be more independent and innovative.

Carrying out training to the community will bring many benefits not only for the fifth grade elementary school children themselves, but it is hoped that this "friendship" bracelet product can become a souvenir at every school event or event organized by the Indonesian Embassy in Kula Lumpur Malaysia, so that it can become a business opportunity for children's products. different school than before.

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